The Hongkong Telegraph.

MAIL SUPPLEMENT.

(ESTABLISHED 1881)

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CONTENTS.

BIRTHS.

At Shanghai, the wife of Mr. S. J. HANISCH, Imperial Customs Service, of a daughter.

On 22nd December, at Shanghai, the wife of J. MEATHREL, of a daughter.

On 24th December, at Shanghai, the wife of T. W. SPOTTISWOODE, of a daughter.

At Maternity Hospital, on December 29th, 1905, Mrs. H. A. BURKE, a son.

DEATH.

On the 5th instant, at the Government Civil Hospital, HERBERT ROSE, late of Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Co., Taipeh. Deeply regretted.

The Hongkong Telegraph
MAIL SUPPLEMENT,
ISSUED GRATIS TO SUBSCRIBERS.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1906.

PUBLIC OFFICERS' SALARIES.

(30th December.)

The agitation in Ceylon for an increase in the salaries of the Government officials seems to have resulted in the usual way. Under the cloak of elevating the position of the junior members of the staff, the Government have brought in a scheme for enhancing the salaries of the higher paid officials and left the rank and file practically in the same place they occupied previously. The result of the voting on the scheme introduced by the Gove ment has not yet been learned, but in his opening speech the Lieut.-Governor outlined the general principles of his proposal. Much space is devoted to an explanation of the scheme as it affects the well-to-do officials, but beyond "sympathy and consideration" the junior service, recruited in the Colony, get little or nothing. These juniors were specially commended by the Lieut.-Governor in the memorandum of the scheme as highly deserving, but the extent to which the Government is prepared to go towards ameliorating the condition of these officials is trifling in the extreme. New posts are created carrying higher salaries, it is true, but while the senior members of the public service are to receive an advance at once, and even ante-dated, the small fry are put off until more consideration has been given to their case. The argument in favour of assisting the higher officials is most plausible. In Ceylon the salaries are lower than those paid in the Federated Malay States and in Hongkong, with the result that the latter places are better served than Ceylon. No doubt such is the case, but it is extremely unfortunate that an agitation started in favour of the junior staff should result in the betterment of the higher-paid officials' position. The Lieut.-Governor disclaimed any knowledge of an agitation, and a couple of officials who will, presumably, benefit by the adoption of the scheme laughed ostentatiously when the subject was mooted. Whether they hoped to discredit the agitation—and the Ceylon papers have been full of nothing else for weeks—or wished to cast doubt on the sincerity of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council is beside the question; it was quite clearly in bad taste, to say nothing of being a lapse of discretion. The poorer-paid members of the service are quite as worthy of consideration as the big-salaried officials, who, as often as not, do but half the work that falls to the lot of the drudge, and pocket all the plums. When the dollar began to fall in 1901 or 1902, the salaried staff quickly cried out for a sterling basis of payment; now that the dollar has risen and is likely to remain high they wish to sing another tune. It was the same in Hongkong as in Ceylon, and the small fish suffer. It seems that in Ceylon they have a crowd of servitors at 900 rupees per annum, say $600, and it is now proposed to decrease the number of those who draw that magnificent salary and increase the better-paid posts, so that a man need not think he will be living from hand to mouth, in hunger and misery, all his life. Of course that is a sop, for which the junior staff should be properly thankful, but where is the suggestion that the salaries should be increased from the bottom upwards? According to the introducer of the scheme that is the grandmotherly way of doing business, and whatever the faults of the Government nobody will be allowed to say they are grandmotherly. What the Government did was to look for a grievance and redress it, but the senior members of the public service being most accessible had their grievances redressed, while the juniors were told to hope on, work harder, and perhaps they would get a step in promotion. At present, according to the Lieut.-Governor, they might live to the age of Methuselah on a bare pittance; but now they have got some encouragement for higher things, and doubtless they will be properly grateful. The beneficent legislator in the Native States who advanced the salary of the Government peons by triennial increments of one cent—or perhaps it was ten—has his prototype in Ceylon. It is doubly hard on the poorly-paid members of the service, because they can bring less influence to bear, and have fewer opportunities of calling attention to their grievances, which are only too honest, than their more favourably-situated brethren. The clerical staff, recruited as it must be in the Colony, is seldom considered by the high officials of the Government, who, only too often, are content to introduce schemes for their own aggrandisement and the replenishment of their private purses than to alleviate the distress in which their weaker brethren are placed by reason of the Government's parsimony and their own apathy. However, the Ceylon scheme had not been "rushed through" when the mail left, and, from the remarks made at the meeting, it was evident that some of the unofficial members had very unofficial views on the subject, and doubtless they will give expression to their opinions when the proper time comes. It is sad to reflect that the underlings in the Government service in Ceylon as well as in Hongkong and other places receive little or no consideration from the powers that be, and even if they agitate the result is an increase for their superiors. "Man's inhumanity to man" was never better illustrated than by these Irish methods of granting an increase in the salaries of the junior staff of the public service.

TRADE EXCLUSION.

(2nd January.)

A prominent feature of late in connection with the boycott against Americans and American goods in China seems to be the belief of the New York press that the invasion of China by Japan is now a very widespread movement which has already seriously affected export business across the Pacific from the United States. Reports of some of the American Consular officials have clearly pointed to the fact that the Japanese are making energetic efforts to secure China and Manchuria for a trade territory, to the exclusion of not only America but European nations. At the present time Japan has a large number of sea-going merchant vessels, the latest return giving the total displacement of the registered ships at 1,300,000 tons in round numbers to which will be added the captured vessels which still remain unregistered, and according to the *Asahi's* view, when all are found, the increase during the last eighteen months in the number of ships flying the Japanese flag must be between 30 and 40 per cent. Lines of steamers have been already established to ply along the coast of China and Manchuria, and to connect the Island Empire with the great river ports in the interior, while the steamship service between Eastern Asia and Japan has been considerably increased by the placing of Japanese freight and passenger vessels on additional routes. During the coming summer the work of transporting the troops engaged in the recent war will, to a large extent, be finished, and there will follow the disengagement of the requisitioned ships. The privilege of coast traffic now enjoyed by foreign vessels will then be withdrawn; but the business thus relinquished by them will by no means be large enough to find employment for all the released ships, and there will inevitably follow a slump in freights, to the detriment of the country's shipping industry. The *Asahi* thinks that attention may be directed to the ports of Southern China and the Southern seas, besides in some of the higher latitudes of the north where it sees an opportunity of opening profitable lines. Since the cessation of hostilities the agents of Japanese merchants and manufacturers have literally overrun China, and the relations of the two countries have apparently become so intimate that it is not surprising the trade with China continues to expand. Reports of Consular officials show that a considerable quantity of goods are going into the country from the islands, and whereas until recently Hongkong and Shanghai were undoubtedly the principal importing centres from which goods were sent to the mainland, Japan has now regular lines of vessels to many of the leading cities on the coast and the waterways of China. To all appearances the Japanese are bent on making energetic efforts to secure as much of the Chinese Empire for a trade territory as possible, and American fears of a trade exclusion, apart from the boycott movement, may not be altogether without foundation.

WIDOWS' & ORPHANS' FUND.

(4th January.)

On several occasions we have had the necessity of referring to the working of the pension fund which has been instituted in the Colony as in other Crown Colonies. Everybody knows that Government servants should be treated—irrespective of claim or character—fairly, but it fortunately happens that what we may call a new régime has come into existence. Singapore, which has advanced by leaps and bounds since she received a new Governor, has received a Bill which should receive favour in Hongkong. It is a Bill to ameliorate the condition of the Government proletariat. The Bill, which has been brought in, states that "This Bill is brought forward to abolish the apparent anomaly by which orphans on the death of their mother get between them a less amount than the whole of the widow's pension when she dies. This has been the rule hitherto, but it is not easy to see any sound reason for it, and it must be productive of distress in some cases. The present Bill gives the children the full pension of the widow to be divided equally between them, and makes provision on the same principle for the case where there is a widow and also children of a former marriage, and the case where there are more than one family of children entitled to pension." Although the Bill calls it an "apparent anomaly", the grievance is very severely felt by those in the Government service in Hongkong and the question, "after being threshed out in the southern Colony should come before the Hongkong legislature. The claims are undoubtedly great in their favour, and we have urged them repeatedly. Now that the Straits Government has seen fit to bring in a Bill which provides for the orphans as well as the widows—out of the magnificent sum which has accumulated—there will be great rejoicing in many homes. After the lead given by the Straits, we may confidently expect that Hongkong will follow suit. It is an important question, which affects a large number of people, and it is to be hoped that the whole matter will be remedied by legislation.

CONSERVATIVE CHINA.

(5th January.)

We have long regarded China as so satisfied with her past that any change for the better must come very slowly. And in this as in many other things we have been mistaken. Within the last few months some of the most radical changes have been introduced into China. One of her most cherished institutions has been swept away by the touch of the vermilion pencil. The triennial examinations, which have stood the test of ages and were the hope of so many young men, perished in a day. Some murmurings were heard but the examinations died and only a few groans survived. It is doubtful if in any other country such a radical change could have been made without causing serious trouble. Yet this change was made in the land that changes not. But this change did not come with a demand for it. The mad rush after everything Western in the educational line gave the opportunity for the change. And ever since the edict went forth abolishing the triennial examinations, there has been a fever of anxiety as to what would take their place. The students were not left long in doubt. It was soon made known that students trained along the new lines would receive honours equivalent to the successful candidates at the old examinations, provided they came up to a certain standard. After the order abolishing the old there went forth an order to establish the new. And new orders have gone forth to almost every village in the Kwangtung province at least, to establish the new schools. Of course, this gives an opportunity to all kinds of adventurers. Any man with a smattering of the new methods poses as a qualified teacher and demands a large salary. Hundreds of schools are being opened and there are students in abundance. But the Bureau of Education is seeking to direct the movement and have some kind of uniformity in the studies taught. A curriculum has been published and only schools conforming to this curriculum will be regarded as orthodox schools and be in the line for Government honours. Any person asking to have a school recognised by the Bureau of Education and placed on the list of schools has only to send a petition to the inspector of schools and the request will be granted. This implies that the studies required by the Bureau of Education will be taught. Just lately a further step forward has been taken and if rightly carried out may result in much benefit to the Chinese. The Bureau of Education recognizes the good work that has been done by mission schools and all mission schools will be recognized by the Bureau of Education provided the new curriculum is complied with. This is fair. The Government of India makes this requirement of all schools that ask for Government aid and of course all students for degrees must comply with Government regulations. China is now offering the same privilege to the mission schools of the Kingdom. It almost follows as a matter of course that mission schools will be obliged to teach all the subjects required for Government schools in order to get students. Most of the pupils who enter schools where Western subjects and English are taught do so with the intention of entering Government service in some way or other. These boys will not be likely to remain in schools where they are cut off from all positions offered by the Chinese Government. But here as in India the mission schools will be allowed to teach as many more subjects as they wish. In India this is done and yet the mission schools of India hold a high place among the schools of India. There is no good reason why the mission schools of China should not adopt a like course. The Bureau has done a very praiseworthy thing in recognizing the work of the mission schools and it would be only right that these should help in every possible way to advance the new learning in China. In the past nearly all the teaching of Western studies has been done by the mission schools and there is no reason why they should not still remain at the front. At first there may be some difficulty in making things work smoothly, but time and patience will remove all friction.

AMERICA ON CHINA.

Numerous subjects are dealt with by the Executive Committee of the American Association of China, but, probably, the two most important questions considered are those which relate to American railway enterprise in China and the boycott. It is recognised that the completion of the Peking-Hankow railway is a "notable event," and the construction of the first section of the Shanghai-Nanking railway is also allowed to be a step in advance; but little is said about the Canton-Kowloon line, or the Canton-Hankow railway, which have bulked so large in the minds of people in Hongkong. All we are told regarding the latter line is that "this syndicate, known as the American-China Development Co., released to China all its rights, for a suitable consideration, and the line is now proposed to be built under Chinese auspices, with the aid of a loan contracted largely through British channels. Thus a scheme, much vaunted as an American enterprise in China, has disappeared from the field." Of course, this bald statement does not by any means express the full or actual facts, but it gives in a condensed form the real position. Another paragraph again refers to the anxiety of the Chinese to retain the control of the Chinese railway system within their own jurisdiction. It is rather to be regretted that no comments have been made on this subject, for while we have had a great amount of German and Belgian criticism on the point, American as well as British remarks have been mostly confined to desultory references to the difficulties imposed by the Chinese in the way of railway development. Nobody knows better than the people of Hongkong how earnestly the construction of the Canton-Hankow railway has interested those involved in Chinese affairs, how many men have been living in hopes that the construction would be carried out by an American or Anglo-American syndicate; but not a word of this appears in the report of an Association which should be particularly well-informed on the point. Nothing is said about the Canton-Kowloon line, although the report is supposed to reach the 29th of December. In a curiously-worded paragraph, reference is made to the boycott. The report says: "The boycott movement has developed since the date of our first cable message to an extent which fully justified the Committee's solicitude. It has become complicated with other movements so as to be no longer a matter for settlement merely between America and China." As a matter of fact there has been no real complication, at least in so far as South China is concerned, unless, of course, the Lien-chau tragedy be deemed a result of the movement. We entirely agree with the sentiment that: "The situation is one which requires the utmost wisdom, prudence, and self-restraint, and particularly so on the part of the Government of China." But all this is simply a matter for America and no other country is concerned, unless very indirectly, in the hostility manifested towards the New World, its people and its products. A general statement is made with regard to the Anglo-Japanese alliance and a definite and pleasing conclusion arrived at. The integrity of China is assured, we are told, and "The welding of the former limited alliance of England and Japan into a positive alliance for defence and for the maintenance of the *status quo* in Eastern and Southern Asia, seems to afford to China and the Far East an opportunity of peaceful development, such as has not been known since China was opened to the world." Reference is made in a perfunctory way to the questions of trade-marks registration, currency reform, the Chinese Commission and various other topics. On the whole the report is optimistic in character, and without that bias which too often enters into the conception of the compilers of similar records.

THE Australian steamer *Taiyuan*, which is at present in the harbour has on board, in charge of Mr. Geo. Turton, thirteen Australian mares consigned to the Yokohama Race Club. These animals are fine specimens of the Australian breed. Some of them are almost thoroughbreds while the others are three-quarter bred. It might be interesting to know that the Japanese Government required the Yokohama Race Club to import all mares, so that they can breed for stud purposes after their racing days are over.

TELEGRAMS.

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" SERVICE.

THE SHANGHAI AFFAIR.

BRITISH GUARDS REDUCED.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 3rd January, 2.25 p.m.

The authorities have now reduced the guards, leaving only the men belonging to H.M.S. *Andromeda* to guard the settlement.

THE COMMISSIONERS

LEAVING FOR JAPAN.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 3rd January, 2.25 p.m.

The Chinese Commissioners are leaving for Japan on Sunday, the 7th inst.

FORCING TRADE.

RUSSIANS IN MANCHURIA AND MONGOLIA.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 3rd January, 2.25 p.m.

It is reported in Peking that the Russians are endeavouring to carry out enterprises in Manchuria and Mongolia by means of force.

FIRE ON THE "BRISGAVIA"

AT YOKOHAMA.

TWO HATCHES BURNT OUT.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 5th Jan., 1906, 12.25 p.m.

The Hamburg-Amerika Linie s.s. *Brisgavia* was fired by a burning lighter at Yokohama yesterday.

Two of her hatches were burnt out.

PRINCE KUJO DEAD.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Shanghai, 5th Jan., 1906, 12.25 p.m.

Prince Kujo is dead.

[On inquiry at the Japanese Consulate, our representative was kindly informed by Mr. N. Noma that the veteran Prince was a notable figure in the royal circles of Japan. He was the father of the Crown Princess, and was close on eighty years of age. Prince Kujo played no part in the political history of the country.—Ed., *H.K.T.*]

THE TELEPHONE CABLE.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST S.S. "RUBI."

3rd inst.

In Summary Jurisdiction this morning, before His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, the China and Japan Electric and Telephone Company, Ld., sued the China and Manila Steamship Company, Ld., for the recovery of the sum of $1,000, being the amount of damages sustained by the plaintiff company by the breaking of their submarine cable in the harbour, by the defendant company's s.s. *Rubi*.

Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., instructed by Mr. H. G. C. Bailey, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, appeared for the plaintiff company, and Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., instructed by Mr. F. V. Deacon, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, appeared for the defendant company.

The following special jury were impannelled: Messrs. Lawrence Gibbs (foreman), T. F. Hough, and C. H. Grace.

Mr. Sharp, in opening the case, said that the actual amount of damages sustained by the plaintiff company was $1,038.34; but they had given up $38.34 in order to bring the claim within the jurisdiction of this Court. Mr. Sharp said that on the 28th August last the s.s. *Rubi* was lying off the Kowloon Dock, and as she was under repairs, her boilers were empty, and of course she had no steam up. The typhoon signals were hoisted, and, as is the usual custom in the harbour, under such conditions, as soon as the vessels riding at anchor or moored to buoys saw the signals they made for safe anchorages, behind Stonecutters' Island, and other places. Notwithstanding the conditions of the weather the *Rubi* sent for the *Robert Cooke*, the most powerful tug of the Dock Company, and had herself towed, not to a safe schorage, but to her buoy opposite the Hongkong Club. The barometer continued to fall, and the black drum was hoisted, and at 10 p.m. the typhoon gun was fired. The wind rose steadily, and other vessels continued to move to safe anchorages, and yet the *Rubi*, with empty boiler and no steam up, and therefore helpless, remained where she was instead of signalling for the *Robert Cooke* to take her away, although the latter was standing by with steam up, as usual when a typhoon is blowing about, in case her services might be required at a moment's notice. During that night the work continued on the repairs to the *Rubi's* starboard boiler, and the next morning when the black cone and drum were hoisted, with steam only in her starboard boiler, she proceeded in the teeth of the typhoon towards Kowloon Bay, instead of requisitioning the assistance of the *Robert Cooke*, [illegible] dropped her anchor in what is known as the "Reserved area," through which the cables of the plaintiff company pass, and lay there until the weather abated, and the barometer began to rise, when she hove up her anchor again to proceed back to her buoy. It was then found that the anchor had hooked one of the plaintiff company's cables, which it brought up, and that cable was either broken or cut, and freed from the anchor. The breakage was discovered by the plaintiff company later in the day, and proved to be about one third of the length from its southern end, and within the Reserved area. The *Rubi's* fault, he said, lay in two points in seeking safety so late, remaining in her position so long after the other vessels had gone to safe shelters, and that having to move at last she did so with only one boiler in use without obtaining the aid of a steam tug, having regard to the fact that that was the height of the typhoon season.

Counsel then called evidence for the plaintiff.

Mr. W. L. Carter, manager of the China and Japan Electric and Telephone Company, gave evidence as to the discovery of the breakage, and produced some of the strands to show the strain on them, and testified as to the actual cost of the repairs to the damaged cables, showing that the amount paid was considerably more than the amount now claimed.

Mr. F. G. Figg, First Assistant, Hongkong Observatory, testified to the weather prevailing at the time of the occurrence of the breaking of the cable in question, saying that the wind was not violent.

Mr. A. Webb, engineer of Messrs. McDonald and Co., stated that he would only raise his anchor in a typhoon, with half his boilers laid up, under protest as he had often done, and entered the protests in the log books. He had had 27 or 28 years' experience.

Captain Christie said that he did not consider that in the condition of the *Rubi* on the 29th August she should have gone to her buoy, but to a safe anchorage, as she had no steam up, and it would have been prudent to call a tug and go to a safe anchorage. She took upon herself a great risk, the next day, in going to Kowloon Bay, without a tug. It was very imprudent, and she ought to have had herself towed inside Stonecutter's Island. Her proper course would have been to signal for the *Robert Cooke*, the most powerful tug in the Colony. Against the wind at full speed, the *Rubi* ought to have made ten knots. Cross-examined by Mr. Pollock, witness said with one boiler disabled she would scarcely make more than three knots—certainly not anything like half speed. The case was adjourned till to-morrow.

4th inst.

Mr. Pollock, in opening the case for the defence, said that he submitted that there was no case of negligence on the part of the *Rubi's* officers to go before a jury. It was true that the *Rubi* did drop her anchor, but he would show under what circumstances she did so. Assuming that the *Rubi* did drop her anchor within the cable limits, and that as a result of dropping that anchor the cable was broken, that did not prove any negligence. He did not admit that she anchored so, but assumed that she did for the purpose of this action; but he would submit that the plaintiff Company had not proved such negligence. If damage were done by a runaway horse, or anything else moving over which control had been lost, that could not be attributed to negligence.

On the morning in question there were heavy rain squalls accompanied by strong winds, though the plaintiff company endeavoured to make as little as possible of that. The plaintiff company evidently saw the weak points in their case, for without referring to what should have been done on the morning in question they go back and suggest many things that should have been done the previous afternoon, the omission of which they attribute to negligence. If they go back to past possibilities they might go as far as a case he quoted, in which a learned judge held that, if the plaintiffs in a certain case of an accident to a horse went back and back, they would see that if the horse had never left the mews no accident would have occurred. He might say that if the anchor had never been dropped, if the cable had not been there, or if the *Rubi*, had not been in the harbour no accident would have happened. Because the *Rubi* might have gone to any other safe anchorage, and went to Kowloon Bay, it could not be said that there was any negligence on the part of the *Rubi*. The plaintiffs wish to say that it was negligent of the *Rubi* to drop her anchor at all at that time. Assuming that the damage to the cable was done by the *Rubi's* anchor, it was not negligent on her part to drop her anchor at that time, considering the state of the weather. The plaintiff have to show that it was a wrongful manœuvre on the part of the captain of the *Rubi* to drop her anchor when she did, for it was the dropping of the anchor that did or caused the damage. He submitted that the plaintiff had not shown what was the crucial point in this case, whether it was unreasonable or negligent on the part of the *Rubi*, having due regard to the condition of the elements, to drop her anchor when she did, and that they should have shown. It was obvious that the captain, intending to go to Kowloon Bay, would not have dropped her anchor elsewhere, unless she had good and sufficient reasons for so doing, and he would submit that there was no case to go to the jury, and he would ask His Honour to dismiss the suit with costs against the plaintiff company.

His Honour: I am of opinion that there is a case to go to the jury, and I cannot take the case from them and the case must proceed. I cannot say anything more, now. [illegible]

Mr. Pollock: Quite so, My Lord. What, your Lordship holds, I take it, is that if your Lordship were sitting as a jury you would wish to hear further evidence?

His Honour: Yes; we'll hear your evidence.

Mr. Pollock, addressing the jury, said that the question they would have to consider was whether, in dropping her anchor at the time and under the weather conditions prevailing, the *Rubi* showed negligence. He then reviewed and criticized the evidence for the plaintiff company adduced yesterday, and said that very positive, vehement, [illegible] and [illegible] very curious statement in his evidence. [illegible] he said he would treat a steamer with only [illegible] boiler in use as a party disabled [illegible] that was absurd, because the *Rubi* [illegible] the voyage to Manila and back with only [illegible] boiler in use, and [illegible] steamers and made similar voyages [illegible] there. Considered partly disabled [illegible] far as the weather [illegible] know that [illegible] Alarm [illegible] [illegible] was [illegible] [illegible] out of the [illegible] weather [illegible]

Rubi to take fright at the first sign and run to shelter! The captain of the *Rubi* dropped his anchor, as the most prudent thing to do, without pausing to consider any submarine cables, seeing the responsibility he had on his shoulders in the charge of his vessel. The plaintiffs seemed to think their cable of more importance than the safety of the *Rubi* and all aboard her. Another point was that two or three steamers went across the harbour to Kowloon Bay two hours after the *Rubi* left her moorings, so that it could not be said that the *Rubi* was so very late in leaving. After hearing the evidence for the defence the jury would have to decide whether there was negligence in the dropping of the anchor, and whether the anchor was dropped inside the reserve area.

Evidence was adduced, and the case adjourned till to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

5th inst.

His Honour said he wished to re-question the captain of the *Rubi*, and the chief officer, who was in Court, was requested to go on board and call him.

Mr. John Hill said he had been Chief Engineer of the *Rubi* since 1904, and had held a Chief Engineer's certificate since 1900. He was on board the *Rubi* at the time of the occurrence leading to this suit. He was also on the *Rubi* last year when she went to Manila and back with only one boiler in use. They could always travel on one boiler, and in smooth water could get up ten knots, and with two boilers about 12½. He could produce cards of record to prove those statements. When the *Rubi* went over to Manila she went at more than half speed at the time they left the buoy on the 30th August, they had 157 lbs. steam, the maximum being 180 lbs. There was also steam on the donkey boiler to work the auxiliary machinery.

Cross-examined by Mr. Sharp, witness said he made up the log, produced, at noon each day. It generally takes 12 hours to get up steam; on this occasion it took 9 or 10 hours to get 175 lbs of steam. When they went to Manila under one boiler it was to find out the difference between one boiler and two, as an experiment. He could not say whether the insurance companies were aware of that experiment. The use of the donkey-boiler at sea relieves the pressure on the main boiler to the extent of 10 per cent. Mr. Sharp: Here is an entry in the log "3.30 p.m orders to raise steam for typhoon," and that has been corrected by a line through the words and an interlineation. Why was that erased? Witness: It was a mistake.

His Honour: A mistake? Did you dream it? Who told you to enter that order?

Witness: No one told me. I cannot explain why those alterations were made.

His Honour: Have you ever heard of a chief engineer altering his log to make it fit in with times in the chief officer's log? Do you think it is your duty to alter a log in that way?

Witness: When it is a mistake.

His Honour: But surely there should be no mistakes in a book that may be used as evidence?—No!

His Honour: I am inclined to think you were never below—now, were you?

Witness: I was down below a good deal of the day.

His Honour: Yes, Yes; I know all about that; were you below between 12 and 12.30 p.m.?

Witness: I could not say the actual time. I don't do the actual work myself, I go up and down and supervise the work.

To Mr. Pollock: I don't know what time I took my tiffin that day. I had to take it as I could get it. I have no regular watch. The entries in the log are made from the engineer's entries on a slate below, as the orders were given. All the entries on the slate are not entered in the log, as it is not necessary.

Captain Notley, re-called, in reply to questions from His Honour, as to the distance from where he lay to the nearest point on the mainland at the time of the squall which caused him to drop his anchor, said it was about 1,300 yards.

His Honour: Then your head was N.E. and the storm came from the N.E.; now that squall had to come over 1,300 yards of water (¼ of a mile); did you not see it until it was upon you? Did you not see the black storm cloud?

Witness: I did not see anything at all.

Mr. McDonald said he was Dock Marine Surveyor and had been Government Marine Surveyor for over three years. He knew several steamers with one main boiler. A steamer with two boilers, like the *Rubi*, ought to be able to do, approximately, 10 knots, and, with two boilers, 12½ knots.

His Honour: Well, we know she is a 13 knot boat.

Witness, continuing, said the vessel with one boiler in use would be considered perfectly seaworthy. He remembered the 30th August; it would not be a rash or perilous thing, in his opinion, for the *Rubi* to leave her mooring and cross to Kowloon Bay.

This concluded the evidence for the defence. Mr. Pollock then addressing the jury briefly reviewed the facts as adduced in the evidence, and said there were only two points for the jury to consider—whether it was negligent, risky or imprudent, of the *Rubi* to leave her moorings and attempt to proceed to Kowloon Bay on the day in question, and whether it was negligent of the *Rubi* to drop her anchor where she did, having regard to the weather conditions then prevailing. He contended that it did not matter whether the anchor was dropped inside the reserved area or outside—the point was that it was necessary for the *Rubi* to drop her anchor wherever she was at the moment when the squall struck her, and he asked the jury to say there was no negligence on the part of the *Rubi*, and therefore on that account the plaintiffs were not entitled to damages.

Mr. Sharp then, in reply, addressed the jury, and said that it was admitted that the anchor was dropped within the Reserved Area, and the damage to the cable was caused by that anchor. Mr. Sharp then briefly reviewed his evidence, and said that the point was that good seamanship required that ships should take every precaution to prevent any accident to herself or other vessels, and to avoid loss of property. A steamer might wait until the heart of a typhoon burst on her, knocked her about and into other vessels damaging them as well as herself, and then turn round, and say "You can't blame me; it was an act of God. I am not responsible." But that argument will not hold good, as such vessel would certainly be responsible, as she ought not to have been there, and ought to have taken all possible precaution, to place herself where she would not be a danger to herself or the other vessels near.

In the case of the China and Japan Telephone and Electric Company *versus* the China Manila Steamship Company for the recovery of $1,000, being the amount of damage done by the defendant company's s.s. *Rubi's* anchor to the plaintiff company's submarine cable, the jury last night, at 5.15 o'clock, by a majority of two to one returned a verdict in favour of plaintiffs, and judgment with costs was entered accordingly.

A CHINAMAN was sent to three weeks' hard labour and six hours' stocks by Mr. F. A. Hazeland on Wednesday, for snatching a gold coin charm from a gentleman's watch-chain in Queen's Road Central, on the 22nd inst.

TURF TOPICS.

30th ult.

In view of the fact that the races will in all probability be held a fortnight earlier than was at first anticipated trainers thought it advisable this morning to give most of their charges a bit of a "pow."

There was a good attendance on the course among whom I noticed Sir Paul Chater, Messrs. J. A. Jupp, H. P. White, T. F. Hough and the usual jocks.

The morning was a bit chilly, thick mists enveloped the track and the course was very heavy. It was lucky, however, that the rain that was threatening held up until after the gallops were over.

This was the first gallop most of the subscriptions griffin have had since their arrival, and considering the state of the course they were taken slowly.

Among the subs were some very nice movers, notably Mr. White's small iron-grey with the "Roman nose;" Mr. T. H. Rose's nutmeg grey; Mr. Bolles', which latter pony shows a tremendous amount of quality; Mr. Macdonald's two, "including the Sportsman," also moved in good style for three-quarters of a mile.

Mr. Kadoorie has a very taking iron-grey sub, which was also sent three-quarters of a mile, which he accomplished in 1 min. 55sec., last quarter 35sec.

Black Cherry also went the same distance, finishing very strongly in the dirt. He is a very lazy pony in training, especially when galloping by himself, but when sent out with others is quite keen.

Copper King did his usual mile and a half in his usual taking style.

Banzai, I regret to hear, is under a cloud, but I trust it will have a silver lining.

Highland Man and Mr. Hough's blue dun derby griffin I have not seen on the course lately. They are probably in physic.

The donkey-tailed pony is so far one of the nicest looking. He shows lots of quality and is a gay mover.

Mr. Newall's sub is a very free mover, but is, I fancy, a little too short for racing.

Mr. Mitchell has one of the most powerful-looking ponies, with wonderful quarters and loin, and is in addition a great boned pony.

Hon. Mr. R. Shewan's dun is another promising pony. He is a very fine shaped lun, and I fancy when asked the question will be able to respond.

Mr. Babington's is a very racing-looking pony; the only drawback to him is that he has been through the mill in Shanghai, and at present is fit to run next week. I doubt whether he can be much improved upon.

The fast time ponies as a rule are very disappointing.

Mr. C. P. Chater's iron grey rattled off his quarter in the best style this morning, and in addition to his other good points, has a powerful quarter, and a long raking stride.

I hear that the last batch of ponies from Shanghai, numbering about twenty-one, is due here to-morrow morning by the s.s. *Choy Sang*.

THE LAST BATCH OF GRIFFINS.

2nd inst.

As was anticipated by our sporting contributor "The Riding Boy," in our issue of last Saturday, 21 China ponies arrived, and were landed here on Sunday forenoon, by the Indo-China Steam Navigation steamer *Choy Sang*. Eighteen of these animals are consigned to the Jockey Club, while the three others, two Derby griffins and "Lucky Chief," are for Mr. Ellis Kadoorie.

The *Choy Sang* encountered a very wet passage down this trip but the ponies behaved well, there being one or two frisky ones aboard all the same. The animals were all quartered on the fore part of the vessel, sixteen being boxed on the starboard side and the remainder on the port.

All the ponies but one were landed very quietly, and that one created some trouble when hoisted. On being landed on to the wharf, in trying to spring out of the box, he got his right fore foot up on the door and with his hind legs lashed out wildly at the back of the box.

After the ponies were landed and were being "paraded" before marching to the Horse Repository it was observed that one of the ponies was unable to walk. This animal turned out to be one of Mr. Kadoorie's Derby griffins. At first it gave one the impression of a broken leg, but on examination it was ascertained to be a cramp. Stimulants were procured and after a good rubbing down, the pony was able to undertake the journey to the stables.

THE DRAWING.

On New Year's Day, in the compound of the Horse Repository, at Causeway Bay, the drawing was held. On the previous afternoon there was quite a large gathering at the Stables presumably waiting for the drawing. We give below a description of the ponies together with the names of their drawers:—

Pony No. 35. Drawn for H.E. the Governor. A nice looking grey and from appearances a fast galloper.

Pony No. 36. Drawn for Mr. H. Rose. A dark chestnut, and a raw one at that, for on being approached by a mafoo gave a snort and tried several times to offer the "boy" his hind legs.

Pony No. 37. Drawn for Mr. Geo. Potts. A pretty, though heavy looking, grey. A big-boned one, and resembles "Polka" about the head.

Pony No. 38. Drawn for Mr. H. N. Mody. A very handsome bay pony. Probably the best of the bunch.

Pony No. 39. Drawn for Mr. E. Goetz. A dun; big boned and a heavy looking one, with plenty of "belly."

Pony No. 40. Drawn for Capt. Arbuthnot Leslie, A.D.C. A good looking dun pony, presenting good hind quarters.

Pony No. 41. Drawn for Mr. D. Macdonald. A big and strong looking black, possessing a fine head.

Pony No. 42. Drawn for H.E. the Governor. A natty looking grey 'un, with a swollen face, looking like a rhinoceros.

Pony No. 43. Drawn for Mr. H. N. Mody. A fine looking grey. Another heavy one, but possessing good hind quarter.

Pony No. 44. Drawn for Mr. E. A. Griffin. Another black pony. There are quite a few black ponies in this batch, and all of them are heavy looking.

Pony No. 45. Drawn for Mr. J. R. M. Smith. A quiet looking grey pony, apparently possessing good qualities.

Pony No. 46. Drawn for H.E. the Governor. Another heavy looking black.

Pony No. 47. Drawn for Hon. Mr. C. W. Dickson. Another big black, closely shorn from ankles to knees. This animal will require some hard work to bring him up to racing style.

Pony No. 48. Drawn for Mr. D. Dorabjee. A nice grey pony, good looking, possessing some points.

Pony No. 49. Drawn for the Hon. Mr. R. Shewan. Another fine grey. Shows signs of being a galloper.

Pony No. 50. Drawn for Mr. H. N. Mody. A dark brown pony, with right ear clipped, well ribbed up.

Pony No. 51. Drawn for Mr. Geo. Potts. A natty looking chestnut, a good walker, good hind quarter.

Pony No. 52. Drawn for Mr. W. A. Cruickshank. A big woolley looking and heavy grey pony; big boned and a good head.

OWNERS OF PONIES.

We give below for the information of those interested a list, showing the allotment of the subscription griffins:—

	Ponies.
H. E. the Governor	4
Mr. H. N. Mody	4
Mr. G. H. Potts	3
Capt. A. Leslie, A.D.C.	2
Hon. Mr. R. Shewan	2
Mr. J. R. M. Smith	2
Mr. D. Macdonald	2
" W. A. Cruickshank	2
" D. Dorabjee	2
Hon. Mr. C. W. Dickson	2
Mr. H. Rose	2
" E. Goetz	2
Hon. Sir Paul Chater	1
Capt. Smith, A.D.C.	1
Mr. A. Heimer	1
" J. A. Jupp	1
Dr. J. P. Jordan	1
Mr. T. S. Forrest	1
" G. C. Mackie	1
" E. A. Griffin	1
" H. Humphreys	1
" A. C. Hynes	1
" W. Inglis	1
" J. Meier	1
" T. Christiani	1
" E. W. Mitchell	1
The 129th Baluchis	1
Mr. L. W. Bolles	1
" Ellis Kadoorie	1
" Flynn	1
" A. Babington	1
" Craig	1
" Newall	1
" T. F. Hough	1
" C. Moxon	1
Total	52

ARRIVAL OF "CRACKS."

3rd inst.

When it was learnt that only fifty-two subscription griffins were subscribed for this year people—other than the so-called sportsmen—murmured something about the poor race meeting that was to come, the tightness of money and last, but not the least, that the Colony lacked the sporting enthusiasts that kept the track lively in years gone by.

Speaking to a "sport" one afternoon, about a week ago on this subject, he candidly informed our representative that the sporting community looked forward with great keenness to the forthcoming race meeting. He, however, mentioned that there are "budding" sports who subscribed for a griffin one year and because the animal is not placed or carry off a race do not subscribe the following year.

This morning the Indo-China steamer *Hang Sang* arrived here and was moored alongside her wharf at West Point. Seventeen racing ponies, all for private owners, were quartered on the after part of the ship. Following were the arrivals:—

A skewbald Derby griffin, which, according to open gossip, has cost quite a little fortune, is consigned to Mr. W. A. Cruickshank.

Diamond King, a grey pony, for Jardine's.

The well-known ponies Alaska and Norman King, and four Derby griffins, for Mr. Geo. Potts.

Mr. H. N. Mody has four Derby griffins and the old Hongkong ponies, Coronet Rose, La France Rose, Marchal Niel Rose, The Peacemaker, and Sunbeam.

We hear on good authority that the veteran jockey, "Chuck" Burkill, will be here after the Chinese New Year to take part in the race meeting for Geo. Potts' stable.

The well-known Chinese horse dealer, Achow, of Shanghai, arrived by the *Hang Sang*, being in charge of some of the ponies. He is an authority on China ponies and each year travels up to the breeding camp in Mongolia to select ponies for the races.

4th inst.

It was my privilege last evening to see some of the newly-arrived griffins with their blankets off in the compound of the Horse Repository. I paid special attention to Mr. Geo. Potts' string of animals, which have been specially selected by the well-known dealer Achow and which are the pick of fifty-four animals.

A very striking pony, not only because of his colour, but on account of his confirmation, is the one with brown cheeks, a white nose, wall-eyes and a pure white body, with a few brown hairs in his tail. He is well-ribbed up, has a grand sloping shoulder, powerful quarters and a strong loin. In addition, he is a compact well-coupled pony and one that, to "knowers" of the China pony represents perfection.

A light-coloured grey too is a marvellously-shaped pony. He has rare galloping quarters. In fact, any of these four griffins might be said to represent what a high class good quality and racing looking China pony ought to look like.

One of the griffins has already been prepared for the autumn meeting and entered under the name of Emerald King, but was considered a little too much on the big side and therefore did not start, and is still a griffin. He is a grand looking pony and if he can be brought to the post, will, I think, render a good account of himself.

Mr. Buxey's string, when I arrived at the Horse Repository, had already returned to their stables. I was there informed that they had only been walked for a few minutes just to allow the trainer to inspect them after their voyage. Therefore I am not in a position to judge, not having seen the ponies.

One of them, I believe, has done 2 min. 47 sec. in Shanghai for a mile and a quarter, and *Snowbill* as a rule brings pretty "hot stuff."

At the race course yesterday morning a good many of the subscription griffins were powed, the best gallop being done by Mr. C. P. Chater's sub, whose half-mile was rattled off in 1 min. 6 sec., last quarter 30½ sec. In fact, there was nothing within six seconds of this time.

Mr. Moxon's "little rat" took 1 min. 11 sec. over the same distance, last quarter 35 sec., and Mr. Rose's grey sub ran away from Mr. Mitchell's and as they were both stopping to nothing at the finish I did not take their last quarter.

By far the best gallop was put up by Mr. Bolles' sub, with the Molo Boy in the pigskin. He covered a mile in 2 min. 23 sec. Alladin, who went with him being beaten off, and pulled up a quarter of a mile from home.

Mr. Christiani's sub too moved very well and I overheard his late owner—Mr. Ellis Kadoorie—lamenting the fact that he had sold him.

Mr. Babington's pony also was entered half a mile and allowed to move the last 100 yards. There is not the least doubt that he has a splendid style of going.

Now that the race meeting has been definitely fixed for the 12th, 13th and 14th and Off Day on 17th February instead of March 1, 2 and 3 as previously arranged, it will be a case of make or break, and ponies will have to be hustled along for all they are worth when fat or lean, sick or sorry, tired or fresh, and the man who can spot the winner amongst the subscription griffins up to the present deserves a reward.

THE RIDING BOY.

THE RACES.

MORNING GALLOPS AT THE COURSE.

Saturday, 6th January.

Once again the Race-course is assuming that animated not to say festive appearance which usually distinguishes it immediately prior to the Race meeting. Old sports are turning out in full force, and, what is better, ladies are gracing the preliminary canters.

Cold is no word for the raw atmosphere which exists at the Race-course of a morning. The raw winds that blow across the course create a healthy appetite for the matutinal cup of coffee. It takes some courage to rise almost before daybreak, dress in comparative darkness, and forget that there is such a thing as a downy bed. But there is the thought of the coffee counter at the course, and that makes matters easier.

Of course, the real "sport" would get out of bed if a blizzard were blowing and Hongkong had been transported to the Arctic Circle, rather than miss the training of the animals. That is what makes these reunions so delightful. A man is never half so approachable as when he turns up in the morning, clad in negligé fashion and free from business worries. See him at the coffee table, and then see him later in the day at his office intent on business. There is no resemblance. And the best acquaintances are formed on the race track. There is a flavour in that early cup of steaming coffee that is never found elsewhere.

Our popular and genial friend, Mr. J. Y. V. Vernon, who is better known by his racing *sobriquet* of "The President," turned up at the course this morning. He was given a sportsman's welcome, and has promised that he will attend regularly.

The ladies deserve the highest encomiums for appearing at the early morning canters. Most of them were the wives of owners, and their presence gave a distinct charm to the proceedings. A keen sportswoman like a keen sportsman is always to be admired, and we all had the greatest pleasure in their attendance.

Training is just commencing to be in earnest. It is not long now till the meeting takes place, and there is a good deal of hard work to be done to bring the ponies up to the mark. To-day, the measuring of the ponies was begun. Judging from appearances, the meeting next month should prove as interesting and perhaps more so, than a good many of its predecessors. A few steady gallops were made, and the times are on the whole satisfactory, especially at this early stage of the training.

Many expressions of sincere regret were evoked by the news of the sudden and sad death of Mr. Rose, who was the owner of two subs, of a very promising character.

That staunch supporter of the turf, Mr. E. W. Mitchell, has not yet made his appearance on the course, owing to an unfortunate accident to his hand. We all hope that he will not remain long absent from the morning assembly.

Some of the times in the gallops this morning were worth noticing, and should prove of interest to those who care for sport. They are appended:

Hongkong Bank's black-and-chestnut sub., ¾ m., 35, 1.11, 1.47.

Dorabjee's blk. and Meier's Handsome, 1 m., 36, 1.15, 1.54 2/5, 2.30.

Hough's and Shewan's subs., ½ mile, 38, 1.10.

H. Humphreys's sub., ½ mile, 37 3/5, 1.12.

H.E. The Governor's, white and dun, ¾ m., 37, 1.16, 1.51.

Ellis Kadoorie's, 1 m., 40, 1.20, 2.00, 2.35.

Moxon's sub., ¾ m., 1.42.

Mody's Black Cherry, 1 m., 1st. qr. (?), joined by Dr. Jordan's sub., ¾ m., 37 2/5, 1.15, 1.48 3/5

Mr. Griffin's sub. and Banzai, ¾ m., 39, 1.18 1.56 2/5.

Mikosch and Gresson's sub., 1 m., 35, 1.12 1.50, 2.25 2/5.

Alarm and Highland Star (sub.), 1½ m., steady canter, 40, 1.38, 2.18 2/5, 3.00, 3.44, 4.18 2/5.

EARLY BIRD.

The ponies are greatly improving, and the style of some while on the "go" is like that of small horses, notably the donkey-tailed pony who moves well, and if he maintains his present form will probably shake things up on race day.

Alarm and Mr. Macdonald's white-star sub. went three-quarters of a mile. They moved along easily and in good style. The last quarter was covered in 33 seconds.

Mr. Newall's pony went a mile with The Schoolmaster (Grafton). They covered that distance in 2 min. 30 sec., last quarter 34 sec.

Mikosch and Mr. Forrest's sub rattled off a mile in 2 min. 25 sec., last quarter 34 sec.

Mr. Cruickshank's chestnut griffin went the same distance and did it in 2 min. 38½ sec., his last quarter being 37 sec.

The well-known pony Ca-Canny was also put to the test for three-quarters of a mile which was covered in 2 min. 7 sec.; last quarter 36 sec.

The next on the scene was Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's sub. A one-and-a-quarter mile distance was his test. His last three-quarters was done in 1 min. 52 sec., which it seems did not entirely please his owner.

Mr. H. Humphreys's rat tail pony was put to half a mile which was done in 1 min 12 sec., while Mr. Moxon's two griffins covered three-quarters of a mile in 1 min. 43½ sec.

Some minutes later a few ponies were measured by Mr. White. Following are the measurements:—

Mr. Dorabjee's Andromeda (No. 12) made quite a fuss when approached, and a blanket was thrown over his head. His height is 13b. 2½in.

Mr. Babington's grey (No. 1) 12b. 3½in.

Mr. Moxon's grey (No. 3) 12b. 3in.

Mr. Owen's Greyton 13b. 3in.

Mr. Craig's griffin 12b. 3½in.

Mr. Jupp's (No. 6) 13b.

THE RIDING BOY.

SANITARY BOARD ELECTION.

In the current issue of the *Gazette*, it is notified that, by command of His Excellency the Governor, and pursuant to section 8 of The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903, (No. 1 of 1903) as amended by section 3 of The Public Health and Buildings Amendment Ordinance, 1903, (No. 23 of 1903), an election by the rate-payers of two members to the Sanitary Board will take place at the City Hall on Monday, the 22nd of January, commencing at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The following persons will be entitled to vote at the election, that is to say:—

(*a*) Rate-payers who are included in the special and common jury lists for the year 1905.

(*b*) Rate-payers who are exempted from serving on juries on account of their professional avocations.

The election will be conducted in accordance with the rules contained in schedule C to the above named Ordinance.

Voting will commence immediately after the nomination and continue until 6 p.m., when the ballot-box will be closed.

No rate-payer will be allowed to vote unless he produces to the undersigned the receipt for the rates paid by him for the month of December, 1905.

AH, THOSE CHIMES!

ANOTHER CLOCK TOWER QUESTION.

A correspondent writes:—Much has been written of the Hongkong Clock Tower, and it is apparently useless to expect that the Government will take any steps for any considerable time, if ever, to remove that obsession from its present site. But might an appeal be made on behalf of hotel residents and those living on the lower levels to obtain a cessation of those terrible chimes during the night? Of course, I do not want to be unreasonable, and I quite admit that the chimes are necessary during the early part of the evening, if any one is to know the time by this veteran of the public service. One of the clock dials is in darkness and the others are so badly lighted that the inquirer is only lost in doubt when he gazes on their shadowy faces. But who wants the chimes after midnight and before six o'clock in the morning? Not your humble; that is certain. Half the principal hotels in Hongkong are situated in the immediate vicinity of the Clock Tower, and it is a dream to hear how visitors refer to those clanging notes, which ring out just at the most inappropriate moment. When the weary wayfarer has almost reached the arms of Morpheus—to use that classical reference which has so often done duty—out come the chimes at the critical moment, and the whole business of trying to "get off" has to be repeated. Nobody hears the bells of the Clock Tower during the day, but when the streets are clear of shouting rickshaw coolies and fighting chair-carriers they sound like the thunder of a dozen cannon fired off simultaneously. The only people undisturbed by the row are the Indian watchmen. But who could wish the slumbers of these virtuous and reposeful members of the community to be disturbed? Who expects that they would be awakened by anything, especially when doing their honest duty of guarding a godown? Sometimes they sing in concert, like a Welsh glee club, and then it is a question which is the more hideous, the so-called chimes or the Indian songsters. When Gabriel blows his horn it is to be feared that the Indian watchman will sleep through it all, and awaken to find himself in a worldless world, if the paradox be allowed. But all this does not affect very directly the ordinary resident, who has nerves, from being affected by the clamour of the bells and the clatter of their most unmusical cadences. Their existence might be pardoned in the day time, but at night, and particularly after midnight, they are an absolute nuisance, neither called for nor pardonable. If there is a member of the *genus homo* who appreciates the wakeful concatenation of noise then he must be a rarity, to be labelled for exhibition at the City Museum, which is all too poor in such objects as attract the travelled visitor. The bells, in fine, when rung in the stillness of the night are intolerable; they are of little use at the best of times, none whatever when all honest people should be sound asleep.

FIRE AT WEST POINT.

2nd inst.

Another fire, the origin of which is at present shrouded in mystery, occurred on Sunday evening last. It appears that at about 6.10 p.m. on that day the alarm of fire was sounded, and the Fire Brigade turned out and repaired to the scene, but there they found their services were scarcely required as the men from West Point Station, under Inspector Collett, had already got the fire fairly quelched. The outbreak occurred in the tea and tobacco shop of Chun Chao Lan firm at No. 293 Queen's Road, West, breaking out in the first floor, which was stored with goods. This floor was considerably burned and also damaged with water, but the fire was kept from spreading, so that the other floors were not damaged, with the exception of the ground floor which was damaged by water only; the rest of the building standing intact. The cause of the outbreak could not be ascertained, but the damage is estimated at $2,500. The place was insured for $6,000 with L'Urbaine Assurance Compagnie de Paris, and for $500 with the Chin On firm of this City, in all $6,500.

Fan Chi Kok, a tallyman, for behaving in a disorderly manner, and interfering with the firemen at this fire was placed by Inspector Collett, this morning, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, when on proof of the charge, he was fined $25. The fine was paid.

ANOTHER FIRE.

The peace of the neighbourhood of No. 5 Police Station was disturbed, and the slumbers of the inhabitants of that district rudely broken, this morning, at about 3.35 o'clock, when the fire bell rang out the alarm that the fire-fiend was once again running *amok* in their vicinity. The Fire Brigade, under Chief Inspector Baker, lost no time in repairing to the locality indicated, when they found that a fire had broken out in the Kwong Man Foo, Chinese and Japanese store, at No. 7, Wing Sing Street, of which Kwong Pok Shan was the master. The fire-fighters quickly got to work, and soon had their hoses playing on the flames, which in the stillness of the morning had no chance to spread, and in half an hour had the fire in subjugation. No. 7 Wing Sing Street is a three-storeyed house, and the fire is at present believed to have broken out on the first floor, probably through the bursting of a hanging lamp, which the *jokis* suspend at the foot of the staircase leading to the floors above, as the staircase was the most burned portion of that floor, but the actual origin remains, for the present, a matter of supposition. The upper floors were slightly damaged, chiefly by water, but the ground floor remained intact, save only for the dripping through of the water. The amount of the damage could not be ascertained, though it was not expected to be very considerable, but the place was covered by insurance to the extent of $13,000, divided as follows:

Royal Exchange Insurance Co.	$2,000
London and Lancashire "	$2,000
Queen "	$1,000

Messrs. Butterfield and Swire are the local agents of the two first named Companies, and Messrs. Sassoon and Co. of the third.

CROWN LAND SALES.

LOT ON BOWEN ROAD.

A sale will take place at the Public Works Department on the 22nd inst. at 3 p.m. of one lot of Crown land adjoining I. L. 1711, on Bowen Road. The lot contains 5,000 square feet, and will be sold subject to an annual rent of $34. The upset price is $1,250. One of the conditions to be complied with by the purchaser is that a sum of $15,000 must be spent on rateable improvements on the lot within two years of purchase.

A KOWLOON SITE.

On the 22nd inst., at 3 p.m., the Land Surveyor will offer for sale, by auction at the Public Works Department, K. I. L. 171, situate on Austin Road and Austin Avenue, Kowloon. It has an area of 19,035 square feet, and the annual Crown rent is $152. The reserve price is $5,710. The amount which is stipulated to be spent on rateable improvements is $10,000.

NEW TERRITORIES.

Land in the New Territories appears to be coming into favour, if judged by the number of applications made to Government for allotments. On Monday next, at 3 p.m., seven lots of from 310 to 360 square feet will be put up to auction at the Ping Shan Police Station. The upset price is only $4 per lot, and the Crown rent attached to each is $1 per annum.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

2nd inst.

There was a very small gathering of spectators present on the Hongkong Football ground at Happy Valley yesterday afternoon when teams representing the Club and H.M.S. *Sutlej* met in a friendly game. The Club played a very weak game; their combination was faulty, and their shooting, when in their opponents' goalmouth, erratic. They were no match for the sailors, who ran out victorious by a score of two goals to one.

BENEFIT FOOTBALL MATCH.

There was a very large attendance of onlookers around the lines on the Naval football ground yesterday to watch the game between the two leading teams in the Colony—H.M.S. *Diadem* and the West Kents—the latter the holders of last year's Football Shield and the former team the "invincible" of the China Squadron.

The match, in aid of the Soldiers and Sailors' Widows and Orphanage Fund, commenced fast and excitement prevailed around the line. For a few minutes after the kick-off things were even, but it was seen that the soldiers had the upperhand and ten minutes later the West Kents sent in a shot that baffled Norman. Headed by the champion Bell, the *Diadem* at once placed their opponents on the defensive, giving the soldiers no quarter. Several corners were conceded and at last the *Diadem* secured the equaliser, amidst vociferous cheering. In the second half the *Diadem* proved themselves the stronger and from beginning to end were in the soldiers' territory. In this half they scored two more goals, thus winning by three goals to one.

6th inst.

On the naval football ground at Happy Valley yesterday afternoon a match was played between H.M.S. *Hecla* and H.M.S. *Alacrity*. In the first half both teams played a very even game and were attacking alternately. In the second half the *Hecla* moved rapidly, and soon netted the first goal which the *Alacrity* did not lose time to equalise. But the *Hecla* had the best of the game, and another goal was added to the score. Final: *Hecla* 2; *Alacrity* 1.

In the second round for the Soldiers' Football Club Challenge Shield the R.G.A. played H.M.S. *Diadem*, on the Military Football ground yesterday afternoon, when a large gathering was in attendance. When the team from the flagship lined out on the field it was noticed that Le Page, their right back, and one or two others were substituted. The leather was soon put in motion and the sailors commenced to press, but it was noticed in a moment when the Artillerymen made one or two breakaways that the *Diadem's* defence was not what it used to be. It must be said that Mr. Bell and his forwards played an excellent game, but the Fates were against them, for when the Artillerymen made their attack Norman, the flagship's goalie, trying to throw out the sphere, must have taken it between the sticks for the referee ruled a goal, although many of the lookers-on questioned his decision. Before half-time the soldiers had scored their second goal to the *Diadem's* nil.

The *Diadem* had the best of the second half, but notwithstanding their brilliant play and the tremendous shot Bell treated Patterson to, no scoring resulted. Again they tried, and Bell, after a pass from Lawrence, sent the ball past Patterson. It was a splendid game, and the R.G.A.'s goalkeeper deserves great credit for the work he did in goal. Result: R.G.A. 2, *Diadem*, 1.

CRICKET.

POLICE R. C. "AT HOME."

2nd inst.

The members of the Police Recreation Club held an "at home" to their friends at their club pavilion at Happy Valley yesterday afternoon, when a cricket match—Island *versus* Mainland, was played. Following were the scores:—

Island.—Watt, b Kerr, 2; Winter, b Langley, 0; Shepherd, b Kerr, 25; McHardy, b Kerr, 0; Kent, b Kerr, 6; Clyde, b Langley, 8; McKay, c Counsell, b Langley, 14; Hogg, c Cooper, b Kerr, 2; Grant, b Kerr, 1; Warnock, c Langley, b Kerr, 3; McLennan, b Langley, 2; Robertson, b Kerr, 3; Robertson, junior, not out 2. Extras, 4; total 77.

Mainland.—Edwards, b Shepherd, 26; Pitt, b McKay, 0; Langley, b McKay, 4; Kerr, b McHardy, 0; Foley, c Clyde, b McHardy, 1; Atlee, c Grant, b McHardy, 1; Counsell, l.b.w., Shepherd, 0; Cameron, b McHardy, 0; Hutchinson, b Shepherd, 1; Cooper, b McHardy, 5; Sullivan, b Shepherd, 7; Subo not out, 0. Extras 9. Total 54.

PARSEES *v.* CRAIGENGOWER "A" TEAM.

This friendly match ended in a win for the Parsees by 50 runs. For the winners Dr. Nalladaru, Pestonji, Batliwala, Kanga, Vasunia played well, and for the opponents Fairholm, Lammert, Mack and Stewart contributed double figures. The bowling honours fell to Kanga, Pestonji and Fairholm. Scores:—

Parsees.—S. B. Batliwala, b Irving, 13; J. J. Vasunia, b Fairholm 27; H. Pestonji, b Vincent 28; J. A. Chinoy, b Fairholm c Mack 3; M. E. Asger, b Kanga, c Vasunia, 2; J. Fairholm, b Pestonji 28; L. A. Rose, b Pestonji 0; L. E. Lammert, b Kanga, 14; B. A. Rosa, b Kanga 0; A. E. Asger, b Kanga 0; J. Vincent, b Pestonji, c Nalladaru 3; A. C. Mack, not out 11. Extras, 8. Total 81.

THE current number of the *Hongkong Government Gazette* is issued in a handier form. Formerly the former Crown folio, the size is reduced to one of foolscap folio, and it got up after the style of the *Straits Gazette*. It is printed in clear, legible type. The official publication from a printer's point of view, is issued faultlessly, and does credit to the old-established firm of publishers, Messrs. Noronha & Co.

THE *Customs Gazette, July Settlement, 1905*, shows that the revenue collected continues to be satisfactory; the comparative amounts for the third quarter of 1905 and 1904 being in Haikwan taels:—

	1905.	1904.
Chinese Ports	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kowloon and Lappa	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lungchow, Mengtze	[illegible]	[illegible]
Szemao and Teng Yueh	[illegible]	[illegible]
Total	[illegible]	[illegible]

THE MEETING OF THE YEARS.

1905-1906.

30th ult.

As December, 1905, draws to a close we are feeling that we know the best and the worst of the old year and are already, with wonted gratitude, turning from him to his successor hoping, as we ever hope of new things, that 1906 will do better for each of us than was the case with his predecessor. But during the last days of the dying year most newspaper writers are confronted by the task of turning over the old files and looking back a twelve month into the record of events, to contrast the present with the past, and to reflect on the irony of destiny as manifested in the frequent happening of the unexpected. And one has but to review the history of the Far East since the beginning of the year to perceive a striking example in this respect. At this time twelve months ago Russia and Japan were at war, Port Arthur was still holding out, and the Russian army on the Shaho was of enormous strength. The Japanese were bending themselves to the task before them with renewed energy, and demonstrating that they meant to do even more in the new year than they had done in the old. Nogi was pressing the doomed fortress hard, and measures were being taken to reinforce Oyama until his army ultimately reached half a million of men. With the opening of the year that is just closing came the news that Stoessel had sent a letter to Nogi asking terms for the surrender of Port Arthur, and on the 2nd January terms were concluded at a conference between aides of the opposing generals, with the result that the day following the Japanese took possession of the fortress, and a week later the shattered garrison marched out of the captured citadel on its way to the Japanese prisons. Well we know what was happened since then. The Japanese fleet has swept the seas, and the magnificent Russian warships, which, three months later, passed Singapore and entered the China Sea, are now sunk, disabled or dispersed. Her armies have been beaten in every engagement, and man for man the Japanese have proved themselves better soldiers than their foes. The Tsar realised that the game was up and all vainglorious talk of declaring peace at Tokio ceased when Japan ruled the waves in the Far East. The ensuing combat on land was of short duration, and ere long Roosevelt, the peace maker, stepped forward and war was stayed. But for Russia the times are still evil and when we look back on what has happened in the past year in the country of the Tsar, one may well ask whether anything is impossible and good may not yet be brought out of the stormy days through which the empire is now passing.

Turning now to events more intimately associated with our own Colony the past year has provided much of interest to the inhabitants, apart from the exciting incidents brought about by the war and the stirring times occasioned by the coming of the Baltic Fleet with the possibilities of an encounter in the immediate vicinity of Hongkong. Passing over a number of unfortunate occurrences that marred the opening days of the year we find His Excellent the Governor actively engaged in the many schools of the Colony, distributing prizes to the scholars, and urging upon the lads the value of education in all spheres of life. This same month found His Excellency giving an impetus to the newly-formed Volunteer Reserve Association by attending at the range and taking part in the shooting. Several times during the year he has been to Kowloon and attended the various shoots and in many ways has stimulated the movement which is now established on a sound footing and is providing much useful instruction as well as enjoyable recreation. The month of February was devoted to sport, the fixtures including boxing at Kowloon, Hongkong's first annual regatta, yachting, bowling, cricket, football and, of course, the ever-popular race meeting. In March we looked to the food supply, reports being circulated to the effect that the butchers had combined and agreed to raise the price of meat, although later in the year it was made abundantly clear that any increase in the rate was by no means so high as people had been led to suppose. Lord Hawke visited the Colony early in the month, and Dr. Atkinson was a passenger homeward bound on leave of absence, followed a month later by the Rev. W. J. Southam, Mr. Newman Mumford and many other well-known residents of the Colony. Their Royal Highnesses Prince and Princess Arisugawa were welcomed to Hongkong during April en route to England and other countries of Europe. In May, Sir Francis T. Pigott arrived and was duly commissioned as Chief Justice in place of Sir W. M. Goodman resigned. About this time interest was again being shown in the stranding of the French cruiser *Sully* by reason of the launching of the cofferdam at Kowloon the details of which, together with a full account of the operations at the scene of the wreck, have already been fully dealt with in various issues and also in a special supplement to this journal. About the same time we announced the postponement of the Praya East Reclamation scheme, and also discussed the acquisition by a new company of the existing line and new concession of the Hongkong High Level Tramways. On the 1st June the sailing ship *Travancore* went ashore off Fokoi Point, and a month later an inquiry into the cause of the stranding was opened at the Harbour Office. During this month it was learned that the Chief Justice had been knighted and Mr A. Seth, Registrar of the Supreme Court, had been honoured with the I.S.O. decoration. In August came the first news of earthquake shocks in Macao, and for weeks the Colony reported a repetition of these disturbances. Prince and Princess Arisugawa passed through the Colony on their return to Japan in August, followed a fortnight later by the Taft party and Miss Alice Roosevelt, in whose honour an enjoyable programme of festivities was arranged. Annual meetings shortly afterwards became the order of the day, and continued so to the end of October. Commodore Williams succeeded Commodore Dicken in August, and on the 1st of the month following Bishop Pozzoni was consecrated at the Roman Catholic Cathedral in succession to Bishop Piazzoli whose death was announced early in the present year. An important announcement was made during the month, the report being circulated that the Hongkong Government had advanced a loan to China to redeem the Canton-Hankow railway concession, *in connection with which it was generally* understood that the building of the line from Kowloon to Canton would be greatly accelerated. Following the murder of missionaries at Lien-chau on the 28th October, the boycott movement was more generally discussed and it became apparent that the condition of affairs in South China was far from satisfactory. On the 12th ult, the death was announced of Mr. E. R. Bellilios, and a month later came the sad news that Capt. Smith of the s.s. *Siberia* had taken his life. Quite a number of important events were notified in our columns during the two weeks preceding Christmas and as they are so fresh in the memory of our readers it will be quite unnecessary to refer to them again.

But any retrospect of a year's work, however brief and incomplete would be valueless without mention of the proceedings in Government during the twelve months. In this connection it may be of interest to note that the sittings of the Legislative Council have been unusually few in number. H.E. the Governor has explained that it is his desire to limit, if possible, the meetings to two short sessions in the year, and by this means not only will the call on the hon. member's time be lessened, but the government will guard against hasty legislation to meet some suggestion which, on the face of it, seems good, but which comparatively short trial often proves to be ineffectual to attain its object. The year's Budget, laid before the members in September of 1904, was the record one up to that time. The estimates of revenue beat those of 1904, by over half a million dollars, and aggregated the total of $7,198,611, although the actual revenue amounted to 6,809,047. That for the ensuing year is estimated at $7,347,395 and is, of course, the highest so far in the annals of the Colony. In May a short session of the Council was opened in order to deal with certain financial business and to add a number of Ordinances to the Statute Book. These latter included provision for the registration and conveyance of land in the New Territories, the Sugar Convention and the vagrancy question. In regard to the first of these there was an animated discussion in Council and in taking up the matter we felt obliged to strongly oppose the measure, which, however eventually passed into law. The 1906 Budget was introduced in September, and in the course of his remarks to hon. members H.E. the Governor made important announcements in the direction of reforms and improvements. It was at this time that we dealt with the question of sanitation, the Widow's and Orphan's Pension Fund, the new Peak Tramway and other burning questions of the hour and in several instances had the satisfaction of seeing that the force of our remarks had not escaped attention. Last month the members of Council voted an additional sum of $50,000 towards the expenses incurred in the survey and preliminary work in connection with the construction of the Kowloon-Canton railway, an enactment having been previously introduced authorising the Governor to raise as occasion requires, sums not exceeding two million pounds in all for the purpose of defraying the cost of the line and for other railway purposes. His Excellency has expressed a desire to see this line constructed without delay, and when the work is actually accomplished there should soon be evidence that additional capital will flow to Hongkong in unprecedented volume as a direct result of the line. It will tend to a more energetic development of China's vast natural resources and a more rapid extension of its transportation facilities, which in turn will eventually lead to still larger commercial relations with Great Britain.

It only remains to repeat from the opening lines that we trust 1906 will do even better for the Colony and for each of us than did 1905, and that our readers one and all will indeed have

A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

KOWLOON DOCK BALL.

AN ENJOYABLE FUNCTION.

30th ult.

The large hall at the Kowloon Docks, known as the "marking-off room," in which the shipwrights and builders usually put their heads together when the construction of some new vessel is on the *tapis*, presented a very unwonted, not to say frivolous, appearance last night, when business solemnity gave place to merriment. It was the occasion of the Dock Company's annual ball, and after the business of the day had been concluded on Thursday the committee, consisting of Messrs. T. Neave (chairman), W. Stewart (secretary), F. Lapsley (assistant secretary), W. Taylor (Treasurer) and Messrs. Baxter, Davidson and Purves, took the hall in hand, and in a marvellously short time had it transformed into an up-to-date ball-room, with the usual annexes of ladies and gentlemen's cloak-rooms reception room, supper-room and bar, the latter very properly stowed away in a snug corner, and provided with card-tables, which, after the first flush of the opening of the dances, and watching awhile the whirl of the trippers, the non-dancers soon appropriated to enjoy the delights of bridge and poker. The whole of the interior of this immense building where the function took place presented a very seasonable appearance, as considerably more than the usual quantity of evergreens was displayed. The walls were hung with the flags of all nations, their glaring colours being softened to the eye by graceful festoons of evergreens, with which also the ceiling was almost entirely hidden and from which numbers of handsome Chinese and Japanese lanterns hung suspended by small branches. Around the walls were displayed the arms of Scottish clans, while in the centre of the long side wall flashed out a handsome device, in various shades and hues of electric lighted globes, bearing the initials of the Company "H.K.W.D. Co." At the far end of the room on a *dais*, specially erected, was stationed the excellent Band of the 129th Baluchis, who, with the assistance of a piano and some stringed instruments, at the other end of the hall supplied the music for dancing. The Baluchis not having the music for the "Caledonians" and "Eightsome reel," the services of the stringed instrument players had to be requisitioned for these items. The floor was in perfect condition for dancing, and had evidently received very close attention from the committee. The supper-room was most tastefully draped in line with the whole scheme of the decorations, and in this six long tables had been laid out and daintily spread with all sorts of seasonable good things such as the heart of man, and woman also for the matter of that, most loveth, and full justice was done to the caterer's forethought. The supper committee comprised Messrs. Baxter and Logan, while the adjoining bar was under the superintendence of Messrs. Logan and Purves. About one hundred and seventy-five invitations in all had been issued, and as there were but few refusals the scene in the ball-room, once dancing was started, was very gay and animated. For the convenience of the Hongkong visitors, of whom there was a very large contingent, launches had been provided by the company, and these left Blake Pier and Queen's Statue Wharf at 7.45 p.m. and 8 p.m. respectively, the guests, on arrival at the other side of the water, being received by the Reception Committee, Messrs. Neave and Baxter, who looked after the visitors in the way of introductions. Launches also brought the Hongkongites home again after the ball was over. Right merrily went the dancing from 8.30 p.m. up to a very small hour of this morning, and it was a happy if somewhat tired party that finally, and even reluctantly, quitted the hall after another most enjoyable night's entertainment.

The following is the programme of dances:—

Lancers, Waltz, Circassian Circle, Caledonians, Eightsome Reel, Barn Dance, Waltz, Lancers, Highland Schottische, Quadrille, Waltz, Caledonians, Barn Dance, Lancers, Waltz, Eightsome Reel, Schottische, Lancers, Waltz, Caledonians, Two-Step, and Lancers.

THE CHILDREN'S FANCY BALL.

In a previous issue we printed a short account of the children's fancy dress Ball given at Mountain Lodge, by Sir Francis and Lady Piggott, and we now give a list of the children who were present, with some of the most striking costumes, which pressure on our space compelled us to hold over. In all there were seventy children present, and it is a curious fact that but few of the costumes were duplicated. Among the most striking were Master Gedge and little Miss Moxon, as a *Pierrot* and *Pierrette* respectively. Miss Bentinck in the curious representation of a lady's dressing-table attracted much attention. The little Parrs represented "Little Boy Blue," and "Baby Bunting." Master Rois appeared as "Adam" (after his exile from Eden). His sister made a very graceful "My Great Aunt." Master Badeley was a pretty "Folly," while Commodore Williams's little son made a handsome courtier of the time of George III. A very pretty figure was that of Mr. E. H. Sharp's little girl as "a yellow butterfly," while wee Miss Meadus as a pretty fairy with wings and bare feet was a very dainty figure. An attractive "Nurse" was Mr. Mowatt's small daughter.

Following is a complete list:—

Kathleen Moxon, *Pierrette*, Herbert Gedge, *Pierrot*, Dana B. Taylor, Scotch boy, Ronald Parr, Little Boy Blue, Pat Parr, Baby Bunting, Mihara, Japanese school girls, Majorie Berkeley, Peasant, Marchant, Clown, Minami, Japanese boy, Minami, Japanese girl, Rebecca, Slade, White Rose, Slade, Red Rose, Woodward, Red Riding Hood, A. Woodward, Puritan, Pat Ross, Adam, Sylvia Ross, "My Great Aunt," Kruger, Folly, Kruger, Sailor Joe Badeley, Folly, Nancy Badeley, Shepherdess, Fuschs, Red Riding Hood, Fuschs, Chinaman, J. Fuschs, Baker, Williams, Courtier of time of George III., J. Williams, "Nothing," Duffy Dickson, Folly, Jack Dickson, Scotch Boy, Mabel Dickson, Shepherdess, Von der Hyde, Forget-me-not R. Bentinck, "Ladies' dressing-table" Bentinck, Clown, Aileen Hastings, Colleen Bawn, Roy Wise, Jockey, May Robinson, Folly, Jack Robertson, Knave of Hearts, Jean Robertson, Summer, Billy Pinckney, Folly, Francis Pinckney, "Polly put the Kettle on," Claude Davis, Huntsman, Gerald Slade, Archer, Maurice Slade, Archer, Archie Irving, Courtier, Rachel Irving, Sister of Mercy, Carl Hodgins, Folly, Mowatt, Hospital Nurse, Margery Sharp, Yellow Butterfly, Lawrence Kadoorie, Jockey, Horace Kadoorie, Cook, Brutton, Fairy, Meadus, Fairy with bare feet, Stedman, "Little Boy Blue," Nigel Stedman, "Little Lord Funtleroy," Reggie Jones, Cock, Cave Thomas, Gainsborough, Nora Swan, Pierrette, Leven, 20th Century, Balayorsky, Himself, Merchant and Boyd, 20th Century. After the dancing was over a performance of "Mrs. Jarvey's Waxworks" took place. This was organized by Major and Mrs. Painter, who stage-managed behind the scenes, and which caused much amusement to all present.

The following represented the "Nursery Rhymes," so well known to all, Miss Berkeley and Captain Miller "Jack and Jill," Miss A. Berkeley, "Little Miss Muffet," Miss Noel, "Old Mother Hubbard," Mrs. Pritchard, "Little Red Riding Hood," Miss Scwahe and Mr. Anderson, "My Pretty Maid," Miss Blair, "Little Bo Peep," Messrs. Ogle, R.E., "Little Boy Blue," Murphy, "Little Jack Horner," Spearman, "Knave of Hearts," and Graham (R.W.K.), "The Golliwog."

SPORTS AT KOWLOON.

2nd inst.

New Year's Day was a day which will be long remembered by the youngsters of this Colony, for to them it must have been indeed a "red-letter day." The cause of it all was that the Kowloon Cricket Club had decided to break away from the beaten track, and instead of keeping their splendid grounds for their own enjoyment of a cricket or bowling match, they threw them open for the amusement of all the children of the Colony, to whom an open invitation was given, to come and join in an afternoon's programme of sports of all sorts and for all ages, between four and fourteen years. It must have been very gratifying to the members of the club, especially those responsible for the event, to see how the children, big and small, came rolling up in their numbers, to compete in the various races arranged so carefully for them. The grounds presented a very picturesque appearance, being hung with bunting, while on the higher ground around interested groups of soldiers from the various native Indian regiments, lent an Oriental touch to the scene, which generally was a very gay and animated one. The superficial observer would scarcely have believed that there were so many children in the Colony, for they came up to the mark in such numbers, that nearly every race had to be run in heats. A very capital arrangement, thoughtfully made by the committee, in order that the long programme of 26 events, and the prize-giving, might conclude in full daylight for the sake of the young visitors from Hongkong, was that the ground was divided into two parts, thus enabling a boys' and a girls' race to be run simultaneously on parallel courses.

THE RACES.

Punctually at 2 p.m. the starter's bell sounded for the 1st race, a handicap 100 yards for boys, 12 to 14 which resulted as follows:—

H. Matthaey, 1, Albert Ellis, 2, Arthur Ellis, 3, J. Witchell, 4.

75 yards handicap for girls, ages 12 to 14 years:. Nora Robinson and Lillie Reich, dead heat, Winnie Ward, 2, Flo Graham 3.

Three-legged race for boys, open. J. Ramsey and G. Coggan, 1, A. Ellis and G. Witchell, 2, G. Logan and H. Stewart, 3, D. Wilner and A. Ellis, 4.

Girl's skipping race, open, Edith Robinson, 1, Nora Robinson, 2, Winnie Ward, 3.

Boys' 75 yard handicap; 10 to 12 years D. Noronha, 1, R. Robson, 2, T. Logan, 3, W. Stone, 4.

Girls' 50 yards handicap; 10 to 12 years, Edith Robinson, 1, Mary Graham, 2, Winnie Edwards, 3, Lillie Neaves, 4.

Boys' 40 yards sack race; 11 to 14 years Albert Ellis, 1, G. Witchell, 2, H. Matthaey, 3, Arthur Ellis, 4.

Girls' skipping competition; 10 to 14 years, Mary Graham, 1, Winnie Ward, 2, Ethel Robinson, 3.

The 9th event was the setting off of a flight of homing pigeons by Mr. J. D. Logan.

Boys' 50 yards handicap; 8 to 10 years H. J. Felder 1, J. McGlasson 2, T. Logan 3, H. Reich 4.

Girls 50 yards handicap; 8 to 10 years—J. McNeill and E. Robson, dead heat, N. Robinson 2, M. Neaves 3.

Egg and spoon race for boys, open,—J. Ewin 1, A. Ellis 2, M. McNeill 3, C. Stewart 4.

Girls' skipping race; 9 years and under.—Queenie Tatam 1, F. Schlamfelder 2, Lillie Jones 3.

Boys' 35 yards handicap; 6 to 8 years.—J. Grimshaw 1, Rennie Lammert 2, B. Logan 3, A. Purves 4.

Girls' 35 yards handicap; 6 to 8 years—F. Schamfalder 1, M. Neaves 2, B. Kinross 3, L. Skinner 4.

Boys' sack race, 25 yards; 8 to 11 years. H. Stewart, 1, O. Musso, 2, G. Stokes, 3, D. Noronha, 4.

Girls' egg and spoon race. Open. Phyllis Lammert, 1, Lillie McDonald, 2, Edith McClelland, 3.

Boys' tug-of-war. Open. Arthur Ellis, H. Matthaey, D. Noronha, H. Stewart, G. Stokes, D. Purves, A. Kinross, G. Ewen, A. Ramsey, H. Reich, K. Robinson, C. Robinson, C. Messenger, and M. Henderson, (winning team). The leader of the losing side made the mistake of doffing his shoes for this event thus could obtain no grip on the dry and slippery grass.

Girls' threading the needle. Open. Phyllis Lammert, 1, B. Robinson, 2, D. Barrington, 3.

Boys' 25 yards handicap; 4 to 6 years. J. Ewen, 1, T. Groves, 2, J. Kinross, 3, E. Davey, 4.

Boys' sack race; 6 to 8 years. J. Ewen, 1, Rennie Lammert, 2, H. Stapleton, 3, H. Sutherland, and Roy Tatam, Head beat.

Girls' 25 yards handicap; 4 to 6 years. G. Ward 1, E. Lambert 2, D. Tuxford 3, D. Capel 4.

Boys' 25 yards handicap; 4 to 6 years. C. Stewart 1, J. Ewing 2, G. Coggan 3, J. Ramsey 4.

Girls' 20 yards race; 4 years and under. Amy Jones 1, B. Morris 2, D. Capel 3, C. Hume 4.

Boys' hopping race. Open. T. Matthaey 1, T. Ellis 2, C. Kynock 3, T. Troves 4, D. Mackenzie 5.

Consolation for girls. Open. Bessie Barrington 1, Mary Wilson 2, Winnie Edward 3, Dorothy Stone 4.

The races over, Mrs. Swan kindly presented the prizes to the winners, whose beaming faces must have been sufficient reward for all the trouble taken by the committee to entertain them. The prizes were varied, valuable and most appropriate to the ages and sexes of the winners. The presentation of the prizes concluded, Mr. Coyne Stephens, hon. secretary of the Kowloon Cricket Club, presented Mrs. Swan with a very handsome silver salver, on which was inscribed:

"In commemoration of the first Juvenile Sports held January 1st, 1906, at the Kowloon Cricket Club." Mrs. Swan presented the prizes, as Dr. Swan is the "father of the Club," and a tiny dot stepped up and handed her a handsome basket bouquet. Cheers for all concerned terminated the official proceedings, when a very unofficial scamper to the huge bran pie ended the children's fun, each child present receiving a packet of chocolates, of which Mr. G. A. Watkins, of Messrs. Watkins and Co., had presented 200 boxes for the occasion.

The following were the committee responsible for the very successful and enjoyable entertainment.

Reception Committee: Messrs. T. Skinner, Rose, R. Stevenson, G. Duncan, J. Sibbitt, and R. Lapsley.

Boys' Handicap Committee: Messrs. W. Curwin, H. Goldsmith, J. Witchell, S. Lightfoot, T. Abley, J. Robinson, and R. Mitchell.

Girls' Handicap Committee: Messrs. D. Mackenzie, J. Ramsey, J. Clelland, A. J. Ward, A. G. Pile, D. Purves, and G. W. Kynock.

Refreshment Committee: Mrs. Kynock, Mrs. Mitchell, Mrs. Goldsmith, G. H. May, J. W. Rattacy, J. D. Logan, J. R. Craik, and others.

Prize Committee: Messrs. A. G. Pile, S. Lightfoot, J. Ramsey, D. Purves, and T. Skinner.

To all of them very great credit is due for their careful arrangements and attention to their visitors, old and young alike.

During the afternoon the Band of the 119th Native Infantry, by kind permission of Colonel Aitken and officers, played the following programme of music.

March ..... "Austria" ..... Nowotny
Overture ..... "Light Cavalry" ..... Suppé
Selection ..... "Three Little Maids" ..... Paul Rubens
Waltz ..... "Espana" ..... Waldteufel
Song ..... "Mona" ..... Adams
Selection ..... "The Girl from Kay's" ..... Ivan Caryll
Extras.
Waltz ..... "La Gitana" ..... Bucalossi
Two-Step ..... "Mumblin Moss" ..... Thurban
God Save the King.

Y. M. C. A.

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL.

2nd inst.

The Xmas and New Year Social, given on the night of Saturday last, at the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association (Chinese Department), was a grand success. The rooms at 26 Des Vœux Road were tastefully decorated and brilliantly lighted, while the platform was beautifully arranged and the refreshment tables sumptuously provided. Early in the evening a great number of guests, visitors and members, began gathering together and towards 8 p.m. the rooms were full almost to overcrowding. Several ladies amongst others were invited and were present.

The proceedings commenced at 8 sharp, when a flashlight photograph was taken of the whole assembly. The next item was the speech by the president of the Y. M. C. A. (Chinese Dept.), who was also in the Chair. Mr. Frederick Mow Fong briefly reviewed the work of the Y. M. C. A. during the year that was drawing towards its close, and showed that the Association was very popular with the young men of the Chinese race and proved very useful in bettering the spiritual, moral, social and physical condition of the members. The Chairman afterwards called upon Mr. F. P. Danenberg for a pianoforte solo. "Aux Armes" (Le Revell du Lion by Antoine de Kontski), rendered by him was very much appreciated by the whole audience. Next followed a recitation in English by Misses U. Wing Yee and U. May Yee, which, considering the very young age of the girls and English being a foreign tongue to them, was very good. The Y.M.C.A. choir nicely rendered a Christmas Carol, and following this was some Chinese music on a dulcimer, by Mr. Addries. Then came a couple of comic songs from Mr. W. H. Ray, both of which received hearty *encores* from all present. A humorous recitation by Messrs. Geo. Lee and Edward Mow Fong, and "Hail Smiling Morn," by the Y.M.C.A. choir and a comic song, by Mr. Edward Mow Fong, brought the first part of the programme to a close. Part 2 opened with a selection, "Sweet Chiming Bells," by the Y.M.C. Orchestra, which was very ably led by Mr. Fred. Mow Fong. Next came a Chinese song by Messrs. Chan Pui'Sum, Ng Mee Sum and Ng Ah Man, to the accompaniment of flute and guitar. Mr. J. M. Wong followed with a genial recitation, and the Christmas carol, "O come, all ye faithful," by the Y.M.C.A. Choir, and a violin solo by Mr. L. A. Graca, were admirably rendered. Mr. Ray was again called upon and sang a couple of songs, and with a banjo duet from Messrs. L. A. Graca and Ku Po Shan, a quartet by Messrs. Rutledge, Mow Fong, Benning and Mow Hing, a Chinese speech by Mr. Wong Kwong, and a pianoforte recital by Mr. Danenberg, the second part came to an end. The third part consisted of a funny sketch entitled "Mrs. Goodwoman's Dilemma" or an episode in sea-side departments, in which Messrs. Divers, W. J. Mow Hing, F. C. Mow Fong and J. M. Wong, appeared as the landlady, maid and two lodgers, respectively. This little farce was very successfully performed. After this all the gentlemen and the ladies assembled partook of refreshments which, thanks to the care and hospitality of the Social Committee of the Y.M.C.A., were sumptuously provided.

THE REGISTRATION OF PARTNERSHIPS BILL.

DISCUSSION IN SINGAPORE.

[*Concluded.*]

MR. W. EWALD.

Mr. W. Ewald remarked that the Bill now proposed made it compulsory for any new firm to become registered, whereas existing firms might, or might not, avail themselves of the new law. Considering the serious and far-reaching disabilities attaching to firms not registered, he was almost certain that registration would be accepted by the large majority of old firms, the disability to sue for debts being in itself a sufficiently powerful inducement to become registered. It would, however, in his opinion, be extremely doubtful whether, in the case of registered firms, the real partners would all come forward for registration. It was true that any unregistered partner, wishing to evade the responsibilities imposed upon him by the Bill, could not sue any person whom he might have caused to become formally registered in his place. He feared, however, that having regard to the lax ideas of commercial morality prevalent amongst a large portion of our native traders, the said disability would not prove a very deterrent influence and thus fail in its object, in view of the freedom from responsibility which could be gained by any unscrupulous partner remaining unregistered. The question naturally suggested itself why, according to Sub-section 2 of Para. 12, a person could not be made liable for debts incurred by a registered firm unless he was a registered member of the firm, even if he were to all intents and purposes the owner or part owner of the firm. The object of this provision, he took it, was, of course, that the register should serve as conclusive legal evidence as to the persons liable as owner or owners of a firm and he even granted that this clause as contemplated by the Bill, might to some extent injuriously affect the credit and working of a firm, in the case of which there was reason to suspect substitution of men of straw for the real owners, although the knowledge of this would after all depend on the individual sources of information open to the creditors. If the purport of the said sub-section was to determine the legally responsible partners of a firm he could not understand the meaning conveyed in the closing sentence of the same, which provided that persons trading in co-partnership with any other person or persons and representing themselves to creditors as trading alone and not in co-partnership with other parties, might nevertheless be held liable for debts incurred by such co-partnership. Not being registered, he could not be held responsible in the case of a registered firm and if applying to non-registered firms, they were anyhow already protected by the existing law and needed no registration. The broad effect of this Bill if enacted in its present form and he did not see how it could be satisfactorily modified unless becoming a legally useless Bill, would be that creditors, owing to being denied by this very Bill the right of redress against unregistered partners in registered firms, would in future lose on the average far more than under present conditions. Nor were local circumstances favourable to the enaction of a Registration Bill. Singapore and Penang being purely transit ports with practically no hinterland to rely on, merchants should jealously guard against anything likely to interfere with the freedom of the dealers in doing business and with the present inducements and attractions for traders to settle in the Straits, because our very existence was bound up to a large extent with the welfare of the native dealers, who distributed our imported goods and brought the produce for our export trade. Again, a considerable number of our native dealers were hardly possessed yet of the requisite commercial education and morals to understand the objects of registration, which would be looked upon by them with suspicion and dissatisfaction. Lastly, the temptation afforded by the sub-section already cited, was made all the greater through almost ideal opportunities available here to unscrupulous owners or part owners, to transfer their creditor's money and, at a suitable moment, their worthy selves to China and other countries, well knowing that once there, they were in perfect safety. The existence of a Registration Bill framed on present lines would, in such cases, make it well nigh impossible to recover any money in foreign countries if the culprit were not a registered member, though the owner of a registered firm. He could always prove with or without the help of the registered partners that the money so transferred was his own. In fact were it not for the sake of greater immunity, he could just as well risk this practice in this place under the protection of the Registration Ordinance. The foregoing showed in this opinion, conclusively, that the Bill, if passed, would make their position worse than it is now and that its adoption was undesirable. The real object, namely, the providing of better measures to make fraudulent concealment of assets less easy, would not and could not be attained, as after all, the question of giving credit would always resolve itself to one of individual experience and judgment. It was in a different direction where matters could be improved; namely, by trying to induce Government to take prompt steps to come to an arrangement with the Native States with the view of placing Straits creditors on the same footing as Native States creditors as regards facilities for claiming against bankrupt estates in the said States and *vice versa*. Business with the Federated Malay States, our so-called Hinterland, was bound to increase as the development of those countries went on, but progress in trading was certain to receive a severe check unless the present shortcomings of the law were remedied. Similar arrangements for greater mutual protection and facilities also in the case of fraudulent transactions should likewise be entered into by Government with our neighbouring foreign countries. He felt sure that if the whereabouts of the estimated $1,000,000 of yearly losses through failures could be truly ascertained, a substantial amount thereof would be found well invested in foreign countries, notably China. The knowledge alone that absconding debtors could be reached and the consequent better prospect of seizing assets in what ear now considered inaccessible places, would be in itself a deterrent from any fraudulent intentions. The present time seemed, as far as China was concerned, a most opportune one, now that law and order were being established there to an extent which never existed before. As he said, it was in these respects that action on the part of the Government would hit the root of the evil and be of real benefit to the trading community of the Straits and thus to the general welfare of the Colony. In conclusion, he hoped that the Chamber would vote against the Registration Bill unanimously, because bearing in mind the history of the Bill nothing but undivided opinion against it would seal the fate of this what must be characterised unnecessary measure. (Applause).

HON. G. S. MURRAY.

Hon. G. S. Murray said that as one of the minority against the resolution he felt that he must still make a fight for the views he held on this very important question. He was not going to criticise the details of the Bill. The Committee had had that opportunity which they had not taken, and he thought the usefulness of the Committee might have been shown more in suggesting amendments than in proposing this resolution of their non-belief in the principles of the Bill. Because he was opposed to the Bill in a great many clauses he was not going to oppose it *in toto*. He felt that there was a necessity in this Colony for registration of partnerships and he thought they might make suggestions to the Government and in Council Chamber itself to have such alterations made as would deprive the Bill of the terror it seemed to possess for some people, and make it a useful measure. They had in the matter of fraudulent bankruptcies a condition of actuality and not of theory, and in the course of the speeches they had had put before them several theories of what would happen if this Bill became law. When it rained we put a great coat on, and we ought to have some protection against this chill brought upon us by the fraudulent bankruptcies continually taking place in this Colony. It had been said in Singapore many years ago—and he thought the remark applied now—that the very commercial atmosphere of the place was tainted with fraud, and it had been added that the commercial transactions day by day were honeycombed with deceit. He did not claim that we were worse off than other trading communities in the East, but he was content to claim that by comparison it was good. What they wanted to do was to purify as much as possible the commercial atmosphere, and he thought that through this Bill they would attain success. But if at any future time they were to suffer inconvenience from the Bill they must not cry out to the Government to give up the Bill; inconvenience was bound to be suffered in the case of any new measure introduced for the benefit of the people and there were many people who would rather suffer pecuniary losses than be put to the inconvenience. It was a bold statement but he felt that it was so. People willingly faced the losses but they did not realise that these losses were the result of carelessness. If the Chamber instructed its committee to deal with the clauses of the Bill which were objectionable, he had no doubt such amendments as were suggested would receive every consideration at the hands of the Government. Shorn of its more drastic clauses, the Bill would become little more than a skeleton; but they would possess something to which they could build flesh and later on infuse blood and activity. He was sure they need not be afraid that because other Colonies had never decided this difficult question, thereafter Singapore should shirk it also. Even if they failed they could say they had done their duty in endeavouring to bring about a better state of affairs in the Colony.

MR. A. BARKER.

Mr. Arthur Barker claimed the indulgence of the meeting to support the resolution. There was no man to whom the members listened with greater interest and pleasure on most matters than Mr. Murray, but he (Mr. Barker) asserted that those who were actually in touch with the class of persons affected by this bill were in a position to know more about the matter than did Mr. Murray. He hoped the Chamber would arouse itself from its usual condition of apathy, and vote against this Bill with no uncertain voice. It should prove a lesson to the Chamber not in future to go to the Government readily or hastily. It seemed to him apparent that Government would never do what was best for the trade interests of this port; an instance of which was seen when there came up for discussion not so long ago a matter that struck at the very root of the port's trade. In fact Government seemed ready to do more than was required—but always in the wrong direction. He looked upon this bill as a most extravagant one, introduced at the most inopportune moment, and as being unworkable and perfectly useless to the class of people it was intended to benefit, the European merchants. The Colony was passing through a period of trade depression; there was no doubt a certain shifting of trade going on, and the Chinese had been suffering. He maintained this was not the moment to put this bombshell amongst them and create general confusion and distrust. He looked upon the Bill as extravagant because the Official Assignee was given power to go into any man's shop and look into his books at any time. This sort of thing made one wonder whether this was a British Colony at all. He would guarantee that if the Bill were passed the effect would be very much what the Chairman had stated. The men who were now known to be partners would not register, but would put in men of straw. These men would still get credit; every European firm in the place would continue to give credit, registration or no registration. Credit must go on as it had done; and because the success of this Bill depended upon the co-operation of every class of the trading community it must fall to the ground hopelessly. What was the use of the skeleton Bill proposed by Mr. Murray? It would do nothing. The same speaker referred to Singapore as being honey-combed with dishonesty and fraud. What of the city of London? Were there not constant bankruptcies there, yet they were never told that the City of London was honey-combed with dishonesty and fraud. Because we had bankruptcies, surely that was no indication that Singapore was worse than any other place in the East. When large credit had been given, it was purely a matter of individual responsibility; such a matter was not one for the State to regulate. If the merchants were occasionally taken by surprise and were "let in," it was their own fault. There probably might have been warnings, but the merchants had gone recklessly to work—and they had suffered accordingly. This Bill had been twice before the Legislative Council, but no new argument was forthcoming to show that the measure was wanted, any more than on previous occasions. Formerly the most eminent men in the place opposed such a Bill. The measure would tend to drive away from the Straits the class of Chinese who were represented here now and of whom more were wanted. The passing of this Bill would keep such men out, because it created a sense of suspicion. He was perfectly certain it would fail in its main object, and, with this, credit would continue in precisely the same way as before. There was no argument proffered for the Bill that was worth hearing. Mr. Barker quoted the opinion of Mr. Adamson on the previous Bill. He said the principal objection he had to it was that it was an interference with trade; and further it was a violation of the principle which had held in this Colony from the beginning, that *Government interference should be* limited to those acts which were necessary for the protection of property and person. Again, Mr. J. W. Bonser, a former Attorney-General, pointed out that it was hopeless to expect to pass such a Bill unless it received the entire concurrence of the trading community. He added: "I have always been of opinion that Government should not do for other people what other people can do for themselves." There was no doubt about it, Mr. Barker added, the merchants had best leave this Bill alone. They did not know what a rod they were preparing for their own backs. He claimed to know something of the Chinese, after sixteen years' experience and he asserted that Singapore compared very favourably in its bankruptcies with any other place he had read or heard of. Compare Singapore with Java. There were some gentlemen present who knew Java.

very well. They would say Singapore merchants were living in paradise compared with the condition of things prevailing in Java. This measure would put them entirely in the hands of the Official Assignee, an official it was the desire of all to avoid. He appealed to the Chamber to fight to the very utmost a Bill which, if passed, would restrict Singapore's trade.

THE RESOLUTION CARRIED.

The Chairman, before putting the resolution to the meeting, alluded to a point raised by Mr. Murray—that the committee of the Chamber had not taken the Bill, clause by clause. He did not think the Committee were not prepared to take it clause by clause, if they had been agreed on the principle of the Bill. They had to ascertain first whether the majority of the committee were in favour of the principle. Mr. Murray had spoken of east winds of dishonesty blowing and had advised them to clothe themselves with this great-coat of registration. He was afraid the Bill would not purify the atmosphere particularly. The chief ground of objection was that it was going to enlarge the opportunities for fraud, and that was why they wished to oppose it and why they did not desire to present Mr. Murray's commercial skeleton. The Committee were opposed to the Bill for the reasons set forth, and he asked the members to record their votes upon it.

The voting then took place, and the result was that the resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Chamber, the Registration of Partnerships Bill now before Council is not desirable in the trading interests of the Port,"

was carried by 19 votes to 7. The voting was as follows:—

For the Resolution—
Howarth Erskine, Ltd.
Huttenbach Bros.
Singapore Oil Mills.
M. S. Martin & Co.
Mansfield & Co.
Boustead & Co.
Arthur Barker & Co.
Adamson Gilfillan Ltd.
Paterson, Simons & Co.
Straits Steamship Co.
Barlow & Co.
Borneo Co., Ltd.
Behn, Meyer & Co.
Jaeger & Co.
Brinkmann & Co.
John Little & Co.
Straits Trading Co.
Rigold Bergmann & Co.
Kumpers & Co.

Against the Resolution—
Syme & Co.
Pertile & Co.
East Asiatic Co.
Sandilands, Buttery & Co.
Mercantile Bank.
P. & O. Company.
Meyer Brothers.

—*Straits Times.*

COAL IN THE PHILIPPINES.

BEST IN THE ORIENT.

A test of coal from Polillo island was made at the government ice plant the other day. The test began at 8 a.m. one morning and closed at 8 a.m. the following morning. A civil government expert, a military government expert and a scientific expert representing the prospectors were present. It was a long tour of duty, but the experts and the representatives of the government remained throughout the night.

That there was coal in Polillo island has been advocated for months past. The official test proved its merits beyond a doubt. Representing the civil government was Chief Engineer O'Donovan, of the insular ice plants; representing the military government was D. N. McChesney, superintendent of the quartermaster's shops. In behalf of the company was Mr. Williams, of the scientific laboratory. Their official and scientific report will be submitted to the governor-general and the commission within the next few days.

A resumé of the results shows that in twenty-four hours the ice plant consumed 42,269 pounds of Polillo coal, or a little less than 19 tons, several tons less than the amount of Japanese or Australian coal used for the same length of time. There was only five per cent. of ash, which is seven per cent. less than the ash from other coals used in the Orient. Mr. McChesney stated that the "ash" produced by Polillo coal was without doubt an excellent blacksmith coal, the grates were coarse and the coal so combustible that had it been well burned there would have been much less ash. By "ash" in this connection is meant the carbon refuse still combustible. During the twenty-four hours the Polillo coal produced only fifty-four pounds of cinder which is one-eighth less than the amount found in either Japanese or Australian coals.

During the twenty-four hours' run of the ice plant it produced seventy-one tons of ice and sixty-five and one half tons of "refrigerating," the largest day's work done by the plant since the early days of September. Only one set of boilers was used. Chief Engineer O'Donovan said that it was about equal with any coal the plant had ever used. Tests of dry and wet steam were made, also tests of the smoke and the effect the coal would have on the flues and boilers, but these will not be known definitely until after a report has been made by the bureau of science.

The engineer who secured the coal said this morning that there was coal in Polillo island in unlimited quantities, with good harbours from which to ship the fuel, he having made a drive into the mountains between seventy and eighty feet from the outcropping to secure the coal used. As he penetrated the mountain the coal became harder.

The official report from the bureau of science is awaited with interest by both the civil and military governments, as Mr. McChesney, representing the military government, stated that he believed the coal is the best steamship fuel in the Orient.—*Manila Times*

THE RETURN OF THE TROOPS.

OVER 200,000 ALREADY BACK.

The *Kokumin* states that up to Dec. 12 the total number of troops who had returned to Japan from the front was 212,106 of all ranks. They are divided according to medical inspection station as follows:—

Ninoshima	120,292
Dairi	52,430
Wada-no-misaki	39,380
Total	212,106

They may be said to represent two months' work, and if the same rate is preserved, as seems more than likely the total brought home by 12th April next will be fully 636,000. According to the *Japan Mail*, the aggregate strength of the various Japanese armies in the field when peace was concluded can scarcely have exceeded three-quarters of a million.

CHINA AS A WORLD POWER.

MR. F. S. BROCKMAN'S LECTURE.

4th inst.

Mr. Brockman, the National Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association in China, Korea and Japan, landed in Hongkong on the evening of New Year's Day. On Tuesday evening a number of Y. M. C. A. members and sympathisers and friends assembled in the Association rooms, at 26 Des Vœux Road Central, to welcome the National Secretary to their town. In response, Mr. Brockman thanked them and related a few incidents of his recent tour, which were very interesting and instructive.

Last night Mr. Brockman spoke on "China as a World Power." The Hall was crowded, over 300 visitors and members being present. Mr. Fred. Mow Fong, the genial President of the Chinese Department of the Y.M.C.A., was in the chair and in a few well-chosen words introduced the speaker to the audience, who had come to Hongkong after about a year and a half. A large number of Chinese gentlemen being present who did not understand English Mr. Ng Tin Po acted as an interpreter and went on rendering into Chinese the words of Mr. Brockman, passage by passage.

Mr. Brockman opened his speech by saying that that time was now gone, and gone for ever, when a country or a continent could hold itself isolated from the outer world. This was more especially true of the countries that are lying across the great Pacific Ocean, which has become and was daily becoming the centre of the world around which the different countries were being knit together. The United States, England and France all had possessions in this wide Ocean, while the stupendous struggle between Russia and Japan was due to Russia's passionate desire of having possessions across the Pacific. The great number of the steamers which were traffiking in the Pacific Ocean were daily making it impossible for all the countries round its waters to remain secluded from the other countries and nations. Mr. Brockman laid stress on the fact that a time had come in the history of the world when no country, no nation, had it in their power to exclude another country or its people. He said that at the present time neither China could exclude the Americans nor could the United States exclude the Chinese. San Francisco, he emphasied, had come to be regarded as the Front Door of the United States and not the Back Door thereof as it was some years ago. New York, if any, was the Back Door of the states.

Speaking about the advantages China had over other nations and countries, Mr. Brockman affirmed that China could trace its history from the last 4000 years or at any rate, 2000 years, and that too with continuity. Thus China had the advantage of these years' experience and could turn same to very good account. 2nd, China had magnificient soil, rich in agriculture, minerals, coal, etc. and further advantage of having all the territories in one place and knit together. Japan, Mr. Brockman pointed out, had no such advantages. Japan had no extensive territories where they could spread. The third, advantage that China had, in Mr. Brockman's opinion, was that it was compact, it had one language, and the Chinese were unlike the Indians, one and united. In having one and the same literature China was compact and knit together. The fourth, advantage was, what Mr. Brockman termed the "virility" of the Chinese people. He affirmed that the Chinese could, without any difficulty, live in the hottest and the coldest part of the globe and would thrive. The fifth advantage, Mr. Brockman observed, was in China's being able, intellectually, commercially and industrially.

But Mr. Brockman regretted the Chinese were behind time and very low in the scale of nations. As a world power China has no position. It was badly lacking in several essential qualities, which are necessary to raise a country to be a world-power. He said, that China of course required a well-trained army, which could hold its own against any Army of the world. But he felt that he need not emphasise that point, as he felt sure that China would not forget that if it was rising into a World-Power. He, however, said that there were other things which were more important or at least as important as that. Chinese masses required education, a liberal education, industrial, commercial and technical education. Japan would never have been able, the Speaker asserted, to beat Russia, if the Japanese soldier had not been educated and could intelligently understand what led his country to declare war against Russia. He emphasised this point and said with great force that the sacrifices which the Japanese soldiers did in the late Russo-Japanese War would never have been done unless the soldiers had that intelligent education which alone could make them understand that their very national existence depended upon the successful issue of the war. While China was ignorant, in Japan each small village had its own school; every parent, no matter what he was, had to send his children compulsorily to school, and there was no family whose members could not read or write; the percentage of those who can read in Japan being 97. Such was the case in other countries too. In England, United States and Germany, as well as the other countries which are being reckoned as world-powers, there are schools in every village and all the children of school-going ages are going to school. There are schools of various sorts in all these countries—Primary, Agricultural, Technical, Electrical, &c., &c. In all the countries which are being recognised as leading the world, masses were being given liberal education. Mr. Brockman admitted that China respected learning; that the Chinese had very well educated officials. But he asserted Chinese required not a few educated Mandarins, but the four hundred thousand people of China all educated. It was, he said, a stupendous task, a task which is well-nigh staggering and will tax all the powers of the Chinese Empire for years to come. Such education, the Speaker affirmed, is sure to bring about public sentiment and patriotism. Mr. Brockman told those present that China required to know how to make things nicely, cheaply and adapted to the wants of the other countries, where they are to be exported. The Chinese ought to make things that would sell. All watches, Mr. Brockman pointed out, used to come into the States from Switzerland, when he was a child; but the young men of the States set about making them with the result that the same watch which cost them gold dollars 150 then, costs now only 20 gold. China's one great want was, then, work-people who cannot only make things in the stereotyped ways but can turn them out cheaply by machinery and better than before. Mr. Brockman admonished the young men of China not to expect that China would jump up as a very enlightened World-Power like Japan or England or the United States. China has to consistently and perseveringly work for that, before it can ever become so. Another thing in which China sadly lacked was "Stability." China ought to have a fixed policy and must persevere in that. Mr. Brockman said that that was the case of the other leading world powers and their policy was so very consistent and they work so very stably that one could very easily say what England or the United States was going to do after even a hundred years. China must also have endurance. Mr. Brockman was very pleased to see the tendency amongst the Chinese students to go over to Japan to study; but he was very sorry to note that, on account of there being no stability in them, there were 8,000 Chinese students at the moment when he left Japan, waiting for boats to enable them to go home. He admitted that the Japanese educational authorities may be hard upon them, but they must have the will to endure a little bit of trouble and have education at all cost. In China, too, the students are very apt to go on strikes and organize revolutions. These were deplorable, Mr. Brockman said. The next thing which China should have before it can attain the dignity of being recognised as a world-power, was to have friends, strong friends and allies. Mr. Brockman could not help praising the far-sightedness and shrewdness of the Japanese statesmen who worked silently but steadily to bring about the recent Anglo-Japanese Treaty and win over England and the United States to its side. Mr. Brockman also emphasized that the Chinese people must become great commercially and industrially. Japan had won the recent war, but is now struggling hard to succeed in the commercial race of the world, which is very keenly going on. China's exports were falling off, almost to extinction. Mr. Brockman, before coming to the Far East, went to all the leading firms in New York, who were importing goods from China to find out as to how China was getting on with the States. He said very sadly that he found that the whole trade of China with the States was well-nigh dead. All the business had been transferred to Japan. One merchant told the speaker that in 1887 he used to import 2½ million silk handkerchiefs, but now he does not get a single one. Another importer told him that he was importing from China sometime back 25,000 pieces of silk at $8 gold per piece, now he gets all his requirements from Japan. These people pointed out that they were importing goods from Japan because Japan afforded them many facilities while it was so very difficult to buy from China. While the Japanese sent over their experts to study the United States people's wants and tastes, adapted their products according to their experience, and every time they sent out their goods they were not only superior but were in fact cheaper being turned out by machinery; while the Chinese workmen are exactly at the same place as they were 2000 years ago. The speaker deduced from all this that China has got to come up to the level of the other World-Powers and leading nations. The last essential, which China must have, according to Mr. Brockman, is "a civilization based upon righteousness." He quoted Confucius in support of this and said that the Government must throw out her dishonest and unscrupulous officials and take up honest people. Mr. Brockman affirmed that he knew that China respected learning and wanted all its officials to be highly educated; but he pointed out that a very learned man can be a rogue. That is why, he asserted, he wants to see China Christianized. Mr. Brockman laid emphasis on this point and asserted that his message to China was to be righteous. He concluded his address by saying that he had spoken very frankly and criticised China, but he did so because he loved China and liked to see it as a World Power.

With these words Mr. Brockman took his seat amidst hearty cheers. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks for the speaker which was endorsed by the entire assembly.

The lecture was very impressive and the young men of China went out of the Hall with the firm resolve to add their mite in raising their country up. The Chinese interpretation of the address was literal and very able.

THE TRAGEDY AT SHANGHAI.

FURTHER DETAILS.

As announced by wire in our columns on the 28th ult. a terrible crime was committed at Shanghai on the previous afternoon. An account to hand states that a great sensation was caused in Shanghai when it became known that Captain E. Hoelger, late of the C.M. steamers *Kiangteen* and *Feiching*, had murdered Mrs. Hartwig, who kept a boarding house at No. 20 North Szechuen Road, near Boone Road, and afterwards completed his work by shooting himself in the same room as his victim. It was learned that the parties were last seen shortly after tiffin and about five o'clock a search was made as it was somewhat unusual for Mrs. Hartwig to be absent at that time of day. It was then found that Captain Hoelger's room door which was on the first floor was locked. Suspicions having been aroused, word was at once sent to the German Consulate-General and Mr. Heinze, Vice-Consul, was sent in company with Mr. Schmidt, a boarder at the house, to investigate the matter. On arriving at the house an effort was made to open the door, but it was found to be securely locked. The bath room adjoining was then tried, an entrance being made from the hallway. The bath room door leading to the bed room was found to be secured, but not locked and by pressing against it, it was found possible to get it open when it was discovered that a heavy writing desk had been placed against the door to prevent it from being opened. On gaining access to the room, which was but little disordered, a terrible scene met the horrified gaze of the party. Mrs. Hartwig was found lying on the floor at the foot of the bed between a small table and the wall on her back with a gaping bullet wound in the back of her head surrounded by a pool of blood. At the side of the bed was found the body of Captain Hoelger, with his head towards the wall and arms outstretched, with a bullet hole extending from the mouth to the back of the head where the bullet made its exit, but it has not yet been found. Alongside the body in a pool of blood was a large revolver with three chambers discharged. One of the bullets had made a large hole in the ceiling while the other two had been used by the murderer in disposing of his victim and then himself. Dr. von Schab was communicated with and on arrival made an examination of the bodies and found them both cold, death having most likely been instantaneous, and the crime must have been committed early in the afternoon. None of the boarders or servants heard anything unusual during the afternoon, and the pistol shots were not remarked by anybody, which leads to the conclusion that the weapon must have been held close to the head when the fatal shot was fired, which is further borne out by the fact that part of her hair is slightly singed at the back where the bullet penetrated. *The bodies were not removed, but are being* prepared for burial, and the funeral will take place to-morrow. The room where the tragedy occurred was locked and secured and the keys taken possession of by the German authorities. Mrs. Hartwig was an old resident of Shanghai, her husband having committed suicide here some six or seven years ago. She was engaged to be married to Captain Hoelger at an early date and the cause of the crime is said to be jealousy, which, it is said, was quite unfounded. The deceased was doing a very good business with her boarding house, and was in very prosperous circumstances, she having no less than sixteen boarders at the time of her death. Captain E. Hoelger was well known along the China coast, having been for a long time past in the China Merchants Steam Navigation Co. He was at one time chief officer of the Ningpo steamer *Kiangteen* and was last acting master of the *Feiching*.

THE CLUB LUSITANO SOIREE.

2nd inst.

No record of the festivities attending the speeding of the old and the ushering in of the New Year can be complete without including the social function which took place at the Club Lusitano on the evening of the 31st December. It is a time-honoured event in the annals of the national institution of the Macaenses in Hongkong. From the year of its foundation to 1905, the Ball of the 31st December has taken place each year without intermission within the precincts of a veritable landmark in Hongkong such as the Club Lusitano can really claim to be when its establishment some forty years ago saw within its stately walls and its annexes in the 60's one of the handsomest edifices the Colony could boast of at the time. Though the Reaper in his inexorable mission has successively claimed one after another all its numerous founders, the objects and purposes of the institution have been creditably maintained by an honorary committee of willing workers year after year, and the present members of the Directorate, presided over by Mr. J. L. de S. Alves, faithful to the tradition of their charge, celebrated the annual event with all the hospitality and conviviality of former years. When it is stated that the hosts aided by most of the members received their friends on Sunday evening, those who were present at the gathering will realize what the hospitality at the Portuguese Club has been. Included in the number of invited guests were members of the British and foreign communities, not excepting the representatives of some of the leading Japanese commercial houses in Hongkong. Dancing was, of course, the order of the evening, and no better hall could be had than that of Luiz de Camoens which had been faultlessly waxed and placed in first-class condition for the occasion. The brilliant lighting was accomplished by a dual system—the combination of electricity with incandescent gas lamps. There was no superfluity of lavish decorations. The feature of the hall was one of the utmost simplicity; the absence of any studious attempt at display gave the conspicuous charm of the decorations which were carried out by means of beautiful palms, pot plants and choice cut flowers. The spacious dining-hall of the Club-house was converted into a buffet for the evening where punches and champagne cups could be had *ad libitum*. The usual card-room was turned into the ladies' cloak-room, the card-tables for the evening being relegated to the floor below near the billiard room. In the library were provided the supper tables where during a half-hour interval after midnight the large gathering adjourned to do justice to an excellent menu.

Commencing shortly after nine o'clock dancing was indulged in by over two hundred guests to the strain of the fine music rendered, by permission of Colonel Aitken and officers, by the Band of the 119th Infantry. During the adjournment and before supper was concluded, Mr. Alves, the president of the Club, in a brief, appropriate speech wished the assembly present a Happy and Prosperous New Year, a wish cordially reciprocated and honoured with a "hurrer." Dancing was resumed after supper and kept up with unflagging enthusiasm until the wee small hours of Monday, just before the dawn. The guests dispersed full of appreciation of the cordiality of the reception and with the pleasant recollection of an evening most enjoyably spent. The members of the Committee and the numerous M.C.'s were collectively responsible for the success of the *soirée*, but to Mr. J. L. de S. Alves and Mr. D. A. Cordeiro had fallen the burden of the task which made success so conspicuous.

Appended is the programme of music:—

1.—Polka ..... "Les Bohemian"
2.—Waltz ..... "Blue Danube"
3.—Lancers ..... "The Country Girl"
4.—Waltz ..... "Dolores"
5.—Waltz ..... "Il Bacio"
6.—Two-Step ..... "Laughing Water"
7.—Waltz ..... "Avant le Bal"
8.—Lancers ..... "Gondoliers"
9.—Waltz ..... "Sourire d' Avril"
10.—Waltz ..... "Venetia"
11.—Lancers ..... "Army and Navy"
12.—Waltz ..... "Soldaten Leider"
13.—Barn Dance ..... "Happy Days in Dixie"
14.—Waltz ..... "La Glitana"
15.—Waltz ..... "Circus Girl"
16.—Lancers ..... "Belle of New York"
17.—Waltz ..... "Tresor d' Amour"
18.—Waltz ..... "Estudiantina"
19.—Galop ..... "La Diable du Corps"

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

INCREASE OF CAPITAL CONFIRMED.

4th inst.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, was held at the registered office of the Society, No. 1, Queen's Buildings, at 11.30 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of confirming the resolution which was passed at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on the 20th day of December last for the increase of the capital of the Society. There were present: Messrs. H. W. Slade (chairman), A. G. Wood, N. A. Siebs, G. H. Medhurst, A. Forbes (directors), W. J. Saunders (secretary), Messrs. F. Paget Hett, A. B. Rouse, C. M. G. Burnie, H. M. H. Nemazee, A. V. Apcar, Julio A. Carvalho, H. J. M. Carvalho, and Capt. F D. Goddard.

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, the object of this meeting is to submit for confirmation as a special resolution the resolution which you have just heard read, and which was passed at the extraordinary general meeting held here on the 20th December, 1905. I propose that this resolution be confirmed.

The resolution is as follows:—"That the capital of the Society be increased to $3,100,000 by the creation of 2,400 additional ordinary shares of $250 each (whereof $100 shall be credited as paid up) ranking for dividend and in all other respects pari passu with the existing ordinary shares of the Society; and that the said additional shares, so far as shall be necessary for the purpose, be issued to those shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company, Ltd., who have accepted or shall accept the Society's offer made to them on the 15th August, 1905, such issue being in accordance with the terms of a contract or memorandum in writing made or to be made pursuant to the said offer and to be filed with the Registrar of Companies; and that the balance, if any, of the said additional shares be disposed of by the Board in such manner as it shall think most beneficial to the Society."

Mr. Paget Hett seconded.

The Chairman:—Gentlemen, it is proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Paget Hett that the resolution be confirmed. Those in favour will please hold up their hands.

All the shareholders signified their approval of the resolution.

The Chairman:—I thank you for your attendance. The Society is now in a position to deal with the shareholders of the China Traders' Insurance Company in accordance with the terms of the Society's offer.

This was all the business.

THE total output of the Chinese Engineering and Mining Company's three mines for the week ended the 10th of December amounted to 21,000 tons, and the sales during the same period to 19,000 tons.

VAGRANCY IN THE STRAITS.

NEW LEGISLATION.

The *Straits Times* writes editorially thus:—

Every thinking member of the community must rejoice at the steps taken by Government in the introduction of the Vagrants Bill that was submitted for the consideration of the members of the Legislative Council at the last meeting of that body. The proposed measure is obviously only an introductory step to more comprehensive legislative action on an issue that merits serious administrative attention. It is a measure that virtually provides houses of detention, or workhouses, wherein may be interned all persons who, either through their own fault or through sheer misfortune, are unable to find proper means of subsistence in the Colony. It means that such institutions will be established, and that the homeless, decrepit and sick will profit by them as asylums while the instinctively vagrant element will be compelled to keep clean, and to work, and to be decent generally, until such time as they can be deported. For those who are able to and willing to work, but for whom there seems to be no immediate opportunity of which they can avail themselves without assistance, every effort will be made to procure work. All will be held detained in such a manner as will prevent their being a nuisance to the working members of the community, by begging or otherwise, during the period when they are unable to support themselves or to find friends who may voluntarily support them. The Ordinance, as a work of relief, is of course as yet elementary; but it shows that the question is one with which the authorities are determined to deal properly. The community in this matter must support the policy of those authorities, and must, also, support the measure itself when it assumes definite proportions. The complaints which have led to the drafting of the Bill have been numerous, and the conditions were such that the Government had to intervene on the behalf and for the relief of the general public. This was rendered necessary by the growth of the disease. The vagrant element of our population was becoming insolvent. Its members were running as near to the edge of the law as was possible without directly infringing it, and they had become, and are, a public nuisance and a public menace. Therefore Government was bound to take measures for the protection of the majority. Moreover, it was beyond doubt that most of the men who had become social parasites in the town were imported—or rather smuggled—into the Colony from outside countries. This was surely a matter for Government to take up; and it is comforting to see that some provisions are made in the new Bill for holding the shipmasters, agents, or consignees of the vessels in which non-self-supporting undesirables are imported, liable for the upkeep of the latter if they become charges on the Colony. Despite these responsibilities, which properly rest upon the authorities, we must not lose sight of the laws of social and racial solidarity, which vest us all, as individuals, with some responsibilities in the matter of our brethren in distress; and we must take a broad, if not precisely a charitable, view of the trouble. The narrow question of kinship does not enter into the matter; but there are other ties, such as those of nationality, class, profession, etc.,—as well the broad one of humanity—which certainly do. All these destitutes, or vagrants, or whatever else they may be technically termed are to a certain extent our brethren;—they are human beings, and as such they have got to be helped. Therefore, though it may be difficult if not impossible to point out what Mr. So-and-so or Towkay This-or-that has to do with the question of the Vagrancy Evil, there is no doubt but every well-to-do member of the community must do some thing to help. He must contribute to the work of relief, by subscribing to repatriation and other similar funds in various cases of distress, deserving and otherwise. The rules regulating the up-keep and control of destitutes, as set forth in the Ordinance, are not calculated to render the Workhouse, or whatever else the detention depot may be called, an attractive residence for those to whom labour is irksome, and who find the rarer and more stimulating comforts of the stomach, of prime necessity to life. So much the better. Such an institution should not be made a paradise or a place of ease; and that all the more because the majority of the Europeans who will drift into it from hereabouts belong to the class who have long forgotten the injunction that man shall earn his bread by the sweat of his brow.

THE STANDING NAVAL SQUADRON.

Japanese papers report that the First and Second Squadrons, and South China Guardship Squadrons, which, as previously recorded, were formed on the formal dissolution of the United Fleet, have been constituted as follows:—

First Squadron:—The Yakumo, Asama, Tokiwa, Iwate, Azuma, Izumo, Otowa, Chiwaya, Tsushima, the auxiliary cruiser Anekawa, and destroyers Ariake, Fubuki, Kasumi, and Yayoi.

Second Squadron:—The Iki, Okino-shima Chiyota, Izumi, Niitaka, Uma, Tatsuta, the auxiliary cruiser Manshu Maru, and the destroyers Murasame, Asashiwo, Asagiri, and Shirakuma.

South-China Guardship Squadron:—The Takachiho, Chitose, Uji, and Sumida.

The Araiosing Squadron:—Hashidate, Itsu-Sushima, and Matsushima.

A WILD LION AT WARREN'S.

BITES ITS TRAINER.

The displays in the lions' cage at Warren's Circus are always of a thrilling character even under ordinary circumstances, but at the performance last night, says the *Straits Times*, (Singapore), of 28th ult., the trainer, M. Zaboiri, while in the cage, met with an adventure which made more than a thrill pass through the spectators, and which, while entailing serious injuries to himself, might have been attended by the most serious consequences possible. M. Zaboiri is noted as a lion tamer utterly without fear in pursuing his dangerous profession. When he enters the cage where are the two big lions, he puts them through their facings, makes them leap over barricade and, as the climax of his daring exhibition, forces open the animals' mouth, putting his face between their jaws. Last night he was doing this with the larger of the two lions when the brute suddenly closed its teeth, and bit right through its trainer's cheeks, breaking a number of teeth and causing blood to flow all down his breast. The spectators were horrified to think what might be the consequences, but the trainer showed no signs of fear and remained in the cage for several minutes longer. On coming out he had his wounds temporarily bound up, and, after the intervals, insisted upon going again into the cage to conclude his preformance. It ended without further mishap. Subsequently his injuries were dressed by a doctor. His jaws were found to be very badly lacerated.

CHINESE AIMS.

The *N. C. D. News*, of 30th ult., says:—Dr. Gilbert Reid, in his lecture on "Harmony between Chinese and Foreign Merchants," delivered to a Chinese audience in their own language at the International Institute on Saturday last, described lucidly and tersely the position of the Anglo-American Settlement here, which has recently become so obnoxious to some of the students, the officials here, and some of the local so-called gentry. He said that "to the Chinese side he would point out that this was a Foreign Settlement, and not the same as other places. China's sovereign rights were for the time given up within this area. China was like a property-owner renting a house to another. He was still the owner, but within that house during the time of the lease the other man was master, and could arrange the rooms as he pleased. So China leased outside the city of Shanghai a few acres to England and the United States. The land was still the Emperor's, but during the lease these foreign countries were master, and could rule at pleasure their own household, and, properly, the Chinese who became their guests. China would get back the sovereign rights of the Settlements when she secured sovereign rights in the whole country, and sovereign rights in the country would be won when her laws were modified, her administration of justice reformed, and her judges were trained men of legal mind and legal knowledge, and when, moreover, Foreign Powers would regard all this as so sufficient as to warrant a treaty which would remove foreign jurisdiction and foreign Settlements."

Young China, or the section of it which calls itself the Patriotic Party, but which has shown itself in reality a very unpatriotic party, has apparently two aims in view, the removal of the Manchu dynasty, and of the burden of extra-territoriality, and it thus, in the most light-hearted and ill-considered manner, declares war against the Government and against all Foreign Powers at the same time, instead of dividing its intended enemies and engaging them separately. As far as regards the Manchu dynasty, there seems to foreigners generally no real patriotism in endeavouring forcibly to replace it by a purely Chinese dispensation. As a matter of fact, the actual Government of China is more Chinese than it is Manchu, and statesmen are so lamentably scarce in China that no one ever heard of any official of promise being rejected because he was not a Manchu. At the present time, the Empress-Dowager is so far from being narrow-minded in this direction that she is appointing Chinese to posts hitherto reserved for Manchus, while there are some Manchu high officials who are as enlightened and capable in every way as their Chinese colleagues. Whether the Chinese as a people would gain anything by the removal from power of all Manchu officials from the Empress Dowager down is more than doubtful; the gain would certainly not be worth the loss to the country that another rebellion would cause. The idea of the Patriotic Party appears to be a Republic, and they are certainly the only people in China who think the nation is ready for it, but to them it seems the only chance of getting power into their own hands. The extraordinary thing to foreigners is, that the officials everywhere, at the capital and in the provinces, seem to be very much in awe of the Patriotic Party, and afraid to provoke it to action. It must, apparently, be very much stronger than we believe it is or the Government very much weaker than even careful observers have imagined it to be.

That Chinese Patriots should wish to get rid of extraterritoriality, as Japan has done, is perfectly legitimate, but there is a right way and a wrong way of going about it. European Powers are not to be moved by blatant agitation, boycotting, and rioting; by encouraging these, the Patriotic Party defeats its own ends. The Japanese statesmen realised very soon after the Restoration that there is no short cut to the achievement of a freedom of this kind. They had to educate their men, to prepare acceptable codes, to establish a trustworthy judiciary, and to show by their success in governing their own people that they could be trusted to govern the strangers within their gates, and it took them years of patient toil before they could convince Foreign Powers that it was safe to conclude new treaties with them abolishing extraterritoriality. The Treaty Powers do not reject any hope that extraterritoriality will be done away with some day in China as it has been in Japan. It is distinctly contemplated in the British Treaty of Shanghai, 1902, Article XII:—

"China having expressed a strong desire to reform her judicial system and to bring it into accord with that of Western nations, Great Britain agrees to give every assistance to such reform, and she will also be prepared to relinquish her extraterritorial rights when she is satisfied that the state of the Chinese laws, the arrangement for their administration, and other considerations warrant her in so doing."

Let the Patriotic Party take this for their text; let them bring some evidence that China has strong desire to reform her judiciary—not by putting on the bench hot-headed youngsters fresh from college,—and to bring it into accord with that of Western nations; let them accept the assistance to such reform offered by Great Britain; let them satisfy Foreign Powers that the state of the Chinese laws, the arrangements for their administration, and other considerations warrant those Powers in relinquishing their extraterritorial rights; but do not let them expect that to bluster and boycott, and hire beggars and bullies to make a riot in the Foreign Settlements will bring them any nearer their alleged goal. Unfortunately, they can buy a renegade foreigner here and there to support their claim; but they do not seem to realise that such support as that does their cause more harm than good. As long as they postpone by their violence the abolition of extraterritoriality, so long at least do they defer the relinquishment by Great Britain and the United States of their virtual lease of the Anglo-American Settlement.

IN connection with the proposed remodelling of the Chinese Navy, inquiries are being made with the idea of making Foochow a great naval centre.

THE new issue of postage stamps in Siam that was casually announced some time since and forgotten about by most people, is now partly on sale at the post offices, says the *Bangkok Times*. The design is entirely new, and the same on each, though the colours vary with the denominations, and they make a very pretty set. The head of His Majesty the King appears as a small profile cameo, supported by two Siamese children, between whom, and just below the King's portrait, appears a distant view of Wat Cheng and the river, with the word "Siam" at the top, and the value below. The values announced are of one att, two, three, four, five, eight, twelve, twenty-four and sixty-four atts, respectively. The one att stamp is of pale yellow, with pale green centre; the two att is purple and pale green; the three atts, green; the four atts, purple and red; the twelve atts, blue; and the twenty-four atts brown. The five, eight and sixty-four atts stamps are not yet issued for sale. The new stamps are slightly larger than those which they supersede.

LARCENY OF JEWELLERY.

4th inst.

At the Magistracy this afternoon before Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, Chan Fung, a woman, figured in the dock on a charge of stealing jewellery, including gold bangles, diamond rings, jadestones, gold chains, etc., of a total total value of $856.50, from Yik Pong Cheong, of No. 93, Hollywood Road, on December 25 last; and Tung E, another woman and Choy Tsui, a man, were charged with receiving stolen property.

Chan Fung, the first defendant, pleaded guilty to the charge; the others denied it.

Chief Detective Inspector Hanson prosecuted on behalf of the police.

A Chinese woman stated that all the jewellery, except the diamond rings, were her property, the rings belonging to her sister. When she went to Canton she left the locked jewellery box in charge of her sister, the key of the box she took to Canton.

The last witness's sister deposed that she missed the jewellery box placed in her charge on the night of the 25th ultimo. The first defendant, her amah, raised the alarm that burglars had come and gone, and asked her mistress to look and see whether the jewellery box was safe. The box was gone and her step door opened. She learnt afterwards that the police had arrested her servant.

A third woman stated that after dark on the 25th ultimo Chan Fung came to her house, at No. 30, Cochrane Street and gave her some jewellery to keep, which was wrapped in a handkerchief. The first defendant said that her master was going to Canton and asked witness to keep the jewellery. When the police went with Chan Fung to witness's house she handed over the jewellery.

P.C. 331 deposed that when a report was received from No. 93, Hollywood Road on Christmas night, he went and arrested Chan Fung. He later went to the house of the second defendant and she said that her husband (third defendant) was out and so could not give him the cash box. Later the third defendant arrived and took him (witness) to two different shops where the jewellery was located, and supposed to have been pawned. They were both taken to the Station and on being searched two hair ornaments were found on the person of the second defendant.

Chan Fung, the first defendant, was next placed in the box. She said that after stealing the box she went and saw Tung E. Witness opened the box with a bit of iron and handed the contents to the second woman. Witness did not know the third defendant.

Chan Fung, the amah who pleaded guilty on Thursday to stealing a cash-box containing jewellery, etc, to the value of $856.50 from her employers at No 93, Hollywood Road on Dec. 25 last, was on Friday sentenced at the Magistracy to two months' hard labour by Mr. F. A. Hazeland. The others, who were charged with receiving the stolen property, were discharged by Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne.

HONGKONG HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

4th inst.

A general meeting of the Hongkong Horticultural Society was held in the City Hall yesterday afternoon for the purpose of enrolling members and electing officers. His Honour Sir Francis Piggott, chief justice, presided.

The following committee was appointed to make arrangements for the forthcoming show, for Mrs. Bowley, Mrs. Brewin, Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Seth, Mr. Barton, Mr. Dunn, honorary secretary, Mr. Craddock and Mr. Osborne. It was decided that this committee should take over the work of the committee which had arranged for the show, the members of the latter to be a sub-committee.

It was agreed that the price of admission on the first day of the show should be $1 and on the second day up to 3 o'clock, 50 cents, after that hour, free. Subscribers to Sir Paul Chater's list were to be made members of the society and to be admitted to the show free. Mr. L. Gibbs was elected secretary and treasurer. A lengthy report was submitted by the committee which had arranged for the Flower Show, in which it was stated that Sir Paul Chater had promised $2,000 towards the prize fund. The Chairman hoped the membership of the society would reach 100. When the meeting opened there were 17 members on the list and several additions were made at the close.

THE LOCAL DEFENCES.

5th inst.

Two Japanese photographers employed by Messrs. Mumeya & Co., Queen's Road Central, were placed before Mr F. A. Hazeland, at the instance of Sergt. O'Sullvian, for being found yesterday within the immediate vicinity of the Hunghom forts with photographic apparatus on their person, to wit, a camera. The case was adjourned for one week to allow the military authorities to be communicated with. Bail, $100 each.

MR. BAINBRIDGE'S LECTURE.

THE "BLACK JEWS"

5th inst.

Never was a lecture delivered under the auspices of the Hongkong Odd Volumes Society more largely attended than it was last evening when Mr. Oliver Bainbridge delivered his address on "Black Jews." Mr. Bainbridge has made a study of this question and was consequently in a position to throw light and information on some new features of the wandering tribes.

H. E. Sir Matthew Nathan, introduced the lecturer in a short speech, in the course of which he remarked that Mr. Bainbridge had travelled in some of the less known parts of the world, and was a keen observer of nature.

Mr. Bainbridge, after a short introduction referring to the advantages of travel as an educational factor, dealt with his discovery of the Black Jews of Papua, at the mouth of the Fly River. The whole history of the Jews had been one of trial and tribulation; they had been persecuted in most countries, and had been obliged to take refuge in many lands where they could practise their religious observances free from outside disturbers. It appeared to the lecturer that these "Black Jews" had been by some means, probably shipwreck, cast upon the island of Papua, and there formed a community among themselves. They had in the course of time lost many of their observances, but still retained sufficient to lead one to the conclusion that they were Jewish. Mr. Bainbridge gave descriptions of the remarkable distinction of the Jewish features in the countenance of those people whom he designated the "Black Jews" of Papua, and detailed the facts which led him to believe that they were members of the Israelite nation, at the same time commenting on their adherence to many of the customs and religious functions of the Jews. The pictures with which the lecture was illustrated fully corroborated the statements of the lecturer, and proved of infinite interest to the audience, who showed their interest in the most unmistakeable fashion. At the close Mr. Bainbridge was accorded a most hearty vote of thanks for his fascinating remarks.

THE POLICE CONCERT.

A PRONOUNCED SUCCESS.

5th inst.

Once again the Water Police station, at Tsim Tsa Tsui, donned its annual festal garb of bunting and winter foliage last night, and threw open its hospitable doors to some 350 guests, on the occasion of its annual entertainment, which this year took the form of a "smoker." In former years the yearly function was always a ball, but this year there have been so many balls, with a plethora of that class of entertainment still announced for the immediate future, that this year it was decided to get out of the old groove and give a "smoker" instead of a ball. And the innovation was evidently fully appreciated by the large number of guests present, who did not neglect to show their appreciation. The huge courtyard at the back of the Station had been enclosed and roofed over with mats, which were lined inside with innumerable flags and festoons of palms and evergreens, and thus transformed into a very fine concert hall, with a fairly high platform appropriately draped and palmed, while in the body of the hall was placed a number of tables, with chairs grouped round them, on which were laid out pipes, tobacco, cigars and cigarettes, while an army of soft-footed boys flitted about dispensing that class of refreshment which usually prevails at these functions, and which is measured out generally from black bottles and brown casks; while the committee, whose names are given below, assiduously looked after the guests so that no throat should be dry and no mouth empty for lack of a "smoke." In a room near by a very elegant supper was tastefully laid out, while plates of sandwiches circulated all the evening for the benefit of those who did not care for anything more substantial. Punctually at 8.30 p.m., Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, who had kindly consented to take the chair, arrived and was conducted by Inspector Langley to his seat immediately below the platform, and was shortly followed by Mr. F. J. Badeley, Mr. J. Hanson, Mr. H. Baker, and others, and then, on the call of the chairman, the proceedings were opened by Mr. Inokay's playing some choice operatic selections on the piano by way of overture, in his well-known masterful style. On account of distance and consequent late arrivals, the programme, which we give below, had to be considerably altered as to order of items, thus the second item was that marked to on the programme, "You had better come down at once," sung by Mr. Harry Wolfe in his usual inimitable style, which called out a prompt encore. This was followed by a succession of songs, alternately comic and sentimental, some instrumental playing on the violin by Mr. Goodiner, on the balalaika, a Russian stringed instrument of the guitar type, by Mr. Inokay, both of which were in excellent style, and two recitations by Lance-Sergeant Clyde, who is a very capable orator, and showed a great force in the "Sleeping Switchman." Space forbids individual criticism of each of the 34 items, *plus encores* given, but without making any invidious distinctions, a special word is certainly due to Mr. P. Langley for his spirited singing of several capital comic songs. Mr. Langley, who has a bright clear and strong voice, was in his best form, and was heard to the greatest advantage. Mr. Morris, who so ably presided at the piano during the best part of the evening, did yeoman's service, and treated the audience to some lively "bits." Mr. Dawson's selections were very good and appropriate, excellently rendered, the instrumentalists mentioned also giving their hearers a treat. At the end of the first part, an interval of ten minutes took place, and was taken up in the consumption of further liquid "refreshers."

In the second part Mr. Inokay's splendid mandolin playing opened the proceedings in very pleasing style, and was followed, among others, by those mentioned above, all in new and up-to-date songs, both comic and sentimental. It is a pity that those taking part in these functions cannot make up their minds, before the time comes for printing the programmes definitely, as to what songs they will sing, instead of having on the programmes "selected" where the name of the song to be sung should appear. But as regards this failing the committee of the Police "Smoker" are to be congratulated for its almost entire absence from their programme, as well as for all their arduous labours, which combined to make the concert the pronounced and unqualified success it undoubtedly was.

The following were the committee: Chairman: Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse. President: Inspector Arthur Langley. Secretary: Sergeant R. H. Wills. Members: Messrs. Pitt, Atlees, Counsell, Bird, Foley, Roby, Edwards, Norman, Lannigan, Berrie and Purdon.

Appended we give the programme, which, it will be seen, was a particularly well selected and varied one, bringing out a good deal of unexpected musical talent, among our local amateurs.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

Pianist		Mr. Morris
1—Overture	Piano	Mr. Inokay
2—Song	Old Bull and Bush	Mr. Jury
3—Song	A Gold Stormy Night	Mr. Leckie
4—Song	"Is your Mother in? Molly Malone?"	Mr. Davenport
5—Song	Adeline	Mr. Simmons
6—Song	Our Tike	Mr. Bailey
7—Song	Out on the Deep	Mr. Badcock
8—Song	Selected	Mr. Dawson
9—Solo	Violin	Mr. Goodiner
10—Song	You had better come down at once	Mr. Wolfe
11—Solo	Balalaika	Mr. Inokay
12—Song	Lisa	Mr. Cooper
13—Song	Fol-de-rol-lol-lol	Mr. P. Langley
14—Song	had to be cruel to be kind	Mr. Palmer
15—Song	Noran's Ass	Mr. Driscoll
16—Song	Faces	Mr. Robins

PART II.

17—Solo	Mandolin	Mr. Inokay
18—Song	A Row in the South has been brewing	Mr. Hines
19—Song	Selected	Mr. Warmington
20—Song	Sleeping in the old backyard	Mr. Wolfe
21—Song	Anona	Mr. Jury
22—Song	Josis	Mr. Simmons
23—Song	There is a girl wanted there	Mr. Davenport
24—Song	In the Sun	Mr. Bailey
25—Song	The Village Blacksmith	Mr. Badcock
26—Recitation	Sleeping Switchman	Mr. Clyde
27—Song	I'se a longing in my heart for you Louise	Mr. Driscoll
28—Song	Selected	Mr. Thwaites
29—Song	Gallant duty	Mr. James
30—Song	Selected	Mr. Cooper
31—Solo	Cornet	Mr. Bristowe
32—Song	Selected	Mr. Bowen
33—Song	His day's work was done	Mr. Walker
34—Song	Selected	Mr. Clarke

GOD SAVE THE KING.

DISPUTED CROWN RENT.

5th inst.

In Summary Jurisdiction this morning, before His Honour, Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, Mr. F. Blünck, owner of Kowloon Inland Lot No. 1, sued Ng Choi, owner of house No. 53 Elgin Road, Kowloon, for the recovery of $11.54, being as to $9.54, amount of Crown rent due by defendant to plaintiff he having paid same, and as to $2, the amount of search fee paid in Land Office by plaintiff, on behalf of defendant.

Mr. Otto Kong Sing appeared for plaintiff, defendant neither appearing in person nor by representation.

Mr. Blünk proved the debt.

His Honour: How do you propose to get it?

Mr. Blünck: Take the house, of course, my Lord!

Judgment for plaintiff with costs.

DEATH INQUIRY.

PRISONER DIES IN GAOL.

5th inst.

At the Magistracy this afternoon before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, sitting as Coroner, an inquiry was held into the circumstances touching the death of one Ng Iu, which took place in Victoria Gaol at 3.40 o'clock this morning; and who was undergoing a term of seven years' hard labour for armed robbery.

The following was the jury empannelled: Messrs. W. E. Rose, C. F. G. Grimble and S. Swart.

Senior hospital warder of the Victoria Gaol said deceased was admitted to hospital on Dec. 7th last and he became gradually weaker and died this morning.

Willian Moore, medical officer, Victoria Gaol, said the deceased was admitted to hospital on Dec. 7th in a very weak and anæmic condition and he gradually developed the symptoms of tubercular meningitis, an invariably fatal disease. He lapsed into a semi-unconscious condition on Dec. 27th, in which state he remained until his death. I performed a *post-mortem* this morning and found the usual appearance in the brain. I am of opinion the cause of death was tubercular meningitis.

Death from natural causes was the verdict returned.

ADMIRAL TOGO'S FAREWELL TO HIS FLEET.

"TIGHTEN YOUR HELMET STRINGS WHEN THE BATTLE HAS BEEN WON."

In connection with the dissolution of the United Fleet, Admiral Togo addressed a lengthy message of thanks and exhortation to the officers and men. In the course of this communication he urges the Navy to remember that its duties are in no way less important now that the Fleet has separated. In order, he says, to make secure the position of the Empire, it is necessary to be always prepared for the worst. In this connection, the Admiral points to the Battle of the Japan Sea as a proof that victory depends rather upon the quality and discipline of the personnel than on the strength of armaments. He proceeds to contend that Japan's prospects of triumphing in any hostilities which may occur in the future rest on the preparation which are made in time of peace, and appeals to the Navy to turn the experience gained in the war to account in improving the Japanese fleet, and thus enhancing the status of the Empire. In conclusion, Admiral Togo urges the officers and men to bear in mind the old Japanese saying "Hatte Kabuto no O wo Shimeyo" (Draw tighter the string of your helmet when victory has been secured.)

PARTNERSHIPS REGISTRATION.

SINGAPORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE CRITICIZED.

We take the following editorial comments from the *Singapore Free Press* of 20th ult.:—

We do not think that it can be a matter for other than sincere regret, that the Chamber of Commerce yesterday afternoon passed a vote opposing the Registration of Partnerships Bill, now before Council. It may perhaps be noted, before making any further remarks, that little weight can be attached to the resolution in any case, since less than half the firms who are members of the Chamber voted on that resolution, but at the same time it is a matter for regret to our mind, that the attitude of opposition has been fathered by men to whom we are accustomed to look for a far broader view on matters of general policy, than is represented by yesterday's discussion. We now know that the majority of the Committee opposed the Bill on the principle, and not on the details, and in so doing we are convinced they have acted in error. It is perhaps rather wearying to go back over the history of the Bill, but we do not think it would be wrong to state that the principle of the Bill was first suggested, and subsequently confirmed, by the Chamber itself although it has on the other hand several times opposed details. The Chamber now goes back absolutely on the principle. There were two main speeches delivered, those of Mr. Shelford against the Bill, and of the Hon. G. S. Murray in favour of the principle. In regard to the others who spoke against, we are bound to record a feeling of decided distaste for the remarks of Mr. Parker. The tone of his speech is bound to lower the estimation of Government in the eyes of the natives here. As Englishmen we are able to value the remarks for what they are worth and laugh at them, but the native traders will accept them as the serious views of a merchant with whom they are accustomed to do business, and they may do untold harm. Making such statement as "The Government is always wanting to put its finger into the mercantile pot, and they ought to learn to keep them out," destroys all the value of the speech, and is not a method to be applauded. The Hon. W. P. Waddell, Mr. Ewald and Mr. MacArthur all supported the resolution in temperate language. Mr. Shelford made a good fighting speech from the point of view of a section of the mercantile class, and the Hon. G. S. Murray replied on grounds of much wider scope.

It is difficult to do otherwise than hold to the opinion that this is essentially a matter on which the community should take a broad view. It is possible the measure, even if amended, may cause some hardship on merchants,—though we believe that could be avoided,—but the Bill is sound in principle as a good law, and merchants who oppose it cannot be cleared from the charge of selfishness. They look at this Bill entirely from their own point of view. This may be excellent policy in their eyes, but it might be worth remarking that the merchants do not constitute either Singapore or the Colony, and the Empire would not severely suffer if they did not exist. The opposers have run away with the idea that because they are perhaps the best class to offer expert advice on the details of the Bill, they are necessarily the best class to judge of its general effect on the life of the Colony. In this we hold them wrong, and we resolutely support the Hon. G. S. Murray and the Penang Chamber in the idea that the Bill is one of absolutely sound principle which is bound to have a beneficial action on the commercial life of the Colony. In the speeches made yesterday, the Official Assignee became a sort of King Charles's head, the speakers could not get away from the title. The Assignee has, as in duty bound, recorded time after time his opinion that registration would be a good thing, but his opinion in this matter is quite secondary, and we take it has not inspired Government to introduce the Bill.

We repeat the Chamber have from time to time approved the principle of the Bill, Government officials have supported the principle, Penang Chamber of commerce has declared itself in favour almost unanimously, a large body of public opinion outside the merchants is in favour of it, and of the fifty odd members of the Singapore Chamber nineteen only could be found to vote against it. Can it be truly said that there is in the Colony an opposing public opinion of anything like the same weight as that in favour?

HONGKONG'S YOUNG MEN.

5th inst.

Mr. Brockman, the National Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association in China, Korea, and Japan, whose lecture on "China as a World Power" we reported at length yesterday, spoke again last evening, in the Association rooms, to a very large audience of young men. Dr. Ho undertook to interpret the address, passage by passage, for the benefit of those young men who did not know the English language.

Mr. Brockman commenced his lecture by saying that Shanghai, Hongkong, Osaka and Tientsin were not the very same places they were 50 years ago. They were now the chief port towns of the Orient and as such had grown to be big cities. However, fifty years ago, Hongkong was a small village wherein a few fishermen dwelt, now it happened to be one of the largest port towns in the world, third in order of merit, only two other places claiming precedence over it. Hongkong is bound to grow in the coming years and to become one of the largest cities of the world. And, so was Shanghai. Fifty years ago, in our father's time, it was a mere village, quite unimportant, the mention of whose existence was never made by the outside world. But the new life had touched Shanghai and Hongkong, people from different parts of the world passed through these cities and settled there, trade and commerce was carried on very grand scales, consequently these cities were fast growing in richness and size.

The rush of these great cities was bound to attract Chinese young men from the interior. In fact, he said, these great cities were going to be models which China was going to make its ideals, during the era which was now dawning upon her. This brought a great deal of responsibility, on the young men of these cities. People from the interior come to the cities, for instance, to get a job. For instance, a young man goes from Nankin to Shanghai or a young man comes into Hongkong from Canton. When this young man goes back after a few years' stay in these cities, people would note his shoes, his coat, his way of doing his hair, etc., etc., because they would think these are the fashions and the manners of Hongkong and Shanghai. But, Mr. Brockman said with evident pain, these great cities, were full of temptation and sin, as the customs of the East and West meet here and coalescing with each other produce another set of customs that are neither Oriental nor Occidental, but somewhere midway between these two.

Mr. Brockman was sorry to say that the safeguards of both the Orient and Occident were lost in this coalition, and instead of, as might be naturally expected, the best of the two being taken and coalesced, the worst of the East and West was taken and the best thrown away to the winds. The young men who came from the Christian countries, like England, Germany or United States, had to come in touch with the intermediate port towns, which were likewise full of sin and temptation, and instead of their bringing their religion with them, they seemed to have forgotten it behind. The young men who, while at home, used to live in the bosom of their family, amidst their mothers and sisters, and used to go twice in a day to the Church, and never had anything to do with drink, when they came to these places commenced going to shoot birds on Sunday, drink hard because of the climate, they said, and do a lot of other things that they would not dare do at home. Not that, said Mr. Brockman, there are not young men who do not do so, but, he regretted, there are so many of them who do so. Similarly, was the case of those who came from the interior, where there was the additional disadvantage of there being no Christian religion. The national customs, the cod of Confucius, the fear of the scandal and dread of the family members being lost, when they come to places like Hongkong and Shanghai, they began going to places, whose name even one could not take in company. Then these cities have places of infamy, where shameful things are openly indulged in, the like of which, Mr. Brockman emphasised, did not exist in the places these young men came from. Mr. Brockman said, with a great deal of emphasis, that he had travelled extensively in many lands and climes but never came across towns anywhere else whose moral atmosphere was more foul than these two great cities of the Orient. He asked any young man to come forward and show him where were the streets in European and American towns, where like Hongkong and Shanghai, shameful and infamous things were openly indulged in.

However, he said, he noticed a change for the better in these places and was glad to observe that. But, said Mr. Brockman, this was not sufficient, as vices in these cities were greater than anywhere else in the world. To remedy this state of things Mr. Brockman proposed that the young men of these towns should recognize the great responsibility that devolved upon their shoulders and should be dead in earnest to fight the sin, temptation and vices that beset these cities. Hongkong required young men, Mr. Brockman observed, who should be (1) brave, and could not only bear the scoffs, jeers and taunts, of their friends, who would threaten them to leave them if they persevered in their career of fighting the evil, but also could withstand evils and temptations, vices and sins; (2) hate sin from the very bottom of their hearts, and not only not succumb to them, but could resist its insidious attacks; (3) could be counted upon to contribute their mite in helping the good causes of the Colony; and would not only say that they sympathised with the cause but, not minding their personal comfort and selfish ease, would go forward to do all that is required of them; (4) Christian; (5) could organise and work in union in this campaign of fighting the vices and temptations. On the last point, Mr. Brockman laid great stress, and said that when all the people who would like us to sin were in a league against us, we have got, in order to be successful, to combine together and work in organization and union. He exhorted every young man present to ponder over what he had said that evening and not only try to escape temptation but also struggle to make his fellow-young men escape falling a prey to temptation and dying a moral death.

CEYLON OFFICIAL SALARIES.

RACIAL DISTINCTION.

A BASIS FOR APPORTIONMENT.

Another unpleasant fact has been brought to light in connection with the tactics adopted in formulating the scheme for the increase of salaries. The instructions from Mr. Lyttelton arrived in the Colony before the end of September. It was clearly his desire that the Unofficials in Council should be admitted into the Committee which was to formulate the new scheme. Till the beginning of December not an Unofficial was admitted behind the scenes. The instructions of the Colonial Secretary were withheld from them. Even the connected correspondence had to be wrung out from Government. Till the proposals of Government had taken shape, the Unofficials were not admitted, and then only at an informal meeting of the Council. It is now said that all this secrecy and exclusion of Unofficials, in whom the Government professes to have confidence, were adopted in order to expedite matters. The public can well judge whether it was not possible to inform the Unofficials of Mr. Lyttelton's suggestion and then if necessary entrust the scheme to the Lieut.-Governor. They also can judge whether even when the scheme was first put forward, the space of three months could not have been used for publishing the connected correspondence. Pettifogging privacy has characterised every step taken in the matter. And in the end a scheme based on a racial basis has been carried by a racial vote. Even Mr. John Ferguson, who proved to the hilt the utter injustice to which Ceylonese gentlemen are subjected under the present scheme and the iniquity of recognising in the Public Service the existence of racial differences voted with the majority. While paying a tribute of praise to the abilities of such men as Morgan, Grenier, Anthonisz, Dickman, Loos, Koch, Rockwood and Garvin, not an uncommon device he deserted the interests of the community to which they belonged. Mr. Ferguson has proved himself a master in the art of betraying with a kiss. We hope to review the speeches fully at a future date.

We pointed out that bereft of all subsidiary issues the main objection is that Government has adopted racial distinction as a basis for the apportionment of salaries. It was stated in reply that Ceylonese if recruited in Europe for posts with sterling salaries would receive those salaries. But the question is will Ceylonese, when present Ceylonese holders of such appointments vacate them, be recruited for them? As was bluntly proposed by Government at first will not such posts come to be regarded as usually filled by Europeans? Thus if Government is not differentiating between persons it is differentiating between posts. The explanation now offered is worse than the thing complained of. It means simply that from some of the higher appointments which Ceylonese have held with distinction, they will be excluded for ever, and then not because they lack ability but because they happen to be domiciled in this country. It is the greatest affront which has ever been put on the communities in this Island. It closes up avenues of distinction to Ceylonese which have hitherto been open to every man. It draws definitely the colour line, which has been drawn in Australia and Africa by a dominant minority. When this matter comes up before the Secretary of State for the Colonies, we trust it will be pointed out that this violates the promise and undertakings made by the British Government to the inhabitants of this country whether they be Dutch, Kandyan or Low-country Sinhalese. It is for the representatives of the people to point out how under the present administration their rights have been ignored and the solemn undertakings of the Government violated.—*Ceylon Independent.*

OSAKA AS A COTTON PORT.

SPINNERS AND THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Writing with refetence to the contract for next year between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Cotton Spinners' Union regarding the carrying of Bombay cotton, the *Jiji Shimpo* remarks that the insertion in the new contract of a clause providing for the landing of raw cotton at Osaka marks the opening of a new era for the Osaka harbour and the proposal will no doubt be received with satisfaction by the people of that city. The contract between the Spinners' Union and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the transportation of raw cotton has been in force since 1893, when the company opened the Bombay service, though freight has been subject to alteration every year according to the condition of the market. Despite the fact that, of about 500,000 bales of Bombay cotton imported every year 60 to 70 per cent. is consumed in Osaka and neighbourhood, the steamers have hitherto stopped at Kobe, whence the goods have had to be taken to Osaka by lighters. This has not only involved larger expenditure and much delay in delivery, but owing to the imperfect accommodation at the Kobe Customs, damage to goods has often been caused by rain, etc., with consequent loss.

Such being the case, continues the *Jiji*, the spinners approached the shipping company with the proposal that in future the steamers should discharge at Osaka, so that they may escape the loss and inconvenience to which they are subjected under the existing arrangements. Although the new measure means additional expense to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, apart from the possible abolition of the Government subsidy on the Bombay line from next year, the company has agreed to the proposal of the Spinners' Union, and the freight has been fixed at 10 rupees per ton. The new arrangement will no doubt prove beneficial to the cotton spinners.

The initial plans of the Osaka harbour improvement scheme have now been completed, continues our Tokyo contemporary, and anchoring, loading, and discharging operations for large ships in the harbour can now be carried on without inconvenience excepting when a strong westerly wind blows, during the winter. The advantages of the harbour works were often demonstrated during the war, when ships of 5,000 to 6,000 tons displacement went alongside the pier and troops and supplies were shipped without much difficulty. Beginning with February next the Bombay liners will visit Osaka regularly to land raw cotton and the utility of the port will be more practically demonstrated. The construction of sheds, light railways, and other necessary preparations on shore will of course be completed before long. The *Jiji* concludes:—"We wish to avail ourselves of this opportunity to offer some suggestions to the Osaka people as to the plan of harbour improvement to be pursued in the future. They need not to seriously listen to such talk as making Osaka the national port of Japan, but they should endeavour to make Osaka a good port, sufficient to meet all requirements. By its situation Osaka is doubtless destined to become an emporium for Eastern trade, while Kobe will remain the centre of European and American trade. Thus the two ports may maintain positions similar to those of Manchester and Liverpool. What has so far been done by way of harbour improvements at Osaka appears to be sufficient for the demand that will be made during some years to come, and therefore it is advisable that the citizens of Osaka, instead of embarking on further extensive and expensive schemes, should try to turn to good account what they have already accomplished."

The moral for Kobe in all this is to hasten the improvement of the port's landing facilities.—*Japan Chronicle.*

THE *Observer* confirms that the British Government do not intend to give Wei-hai-wei up. They have resolved to maintain it as a flying naval base and sanatorium for the Chinese Squadron; but the station will be fortified only in the event of a future emergency requiring that course. When Port Arthur fell no definite reply as to the Government intention could be obtained in the House of Commons, and in Wei-hai-wei the greatest anxiety was entertained as to the future. A well-known local gentleman appealed to Mr. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, the Commissioner, for definite information, and Mr. Lockhart referred the question to the Home Government. Mr. Lyttelton wrote to the Commissioner stating that the Government "do not consider that the British tenure of Wei-hai-wei was affected by the result of the operations in the Far East."

THE BOYCOTT AT CANTON.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

A SPLITE IN THE CAMP.

Canton, 29th December.

Some people are trying to persuade themselves that the boycott is losing strength and that it will soon be at an end. It is only necessary to talk with a few of the reliable merchants and "patriots" in order to be convinced that never during the whole of this struggle have the boycotters been more determined to fight to a finish. I asked several merchants to-day, and some bankers also, if the boycott would be called off with the New Year. The answer came quick and straight, "Yes, if America changes her treaty." And again, "Not unless there is a change." Perhaps there is not as much talk as there was two months ago, but there is a good deal more work being done to strengthen the boycott movement. Canton, Hongkong and San Francisco are in almost continuous communication. Men from Hongkong visit Canton regularly and vice versa. There is, however, one change in the situation. The boycott leaders have split into two factions. There may be weakness in this. These factions are becoming bitterly opposed to each other. The one faction declares that the boycott must continue until the same privileges are given to Chinese entering America as are granted to the people of other nations. It is a demand to be treated as other nations. The other faction asks for a modification of the old treaty. Those who are allowed to enter must not be subjected to the humiliating conditions of the past. They also ask that the treaty must not be interpreted to exclude all who can be excluded, but it must be given a liberal interpretation. The officials must go by the spirit and not by the letter of the law. Now these two factions are at war. Those who want only a modification of the treaty are called "traitors." They are accused of having been bought. They have received large sums of money from merchants to take up this position. This is what the extremists say. What effect this division in the camp may have cannot now be told.

It is becoming more and more evident that the Viceroy is one of the best of the boycotters. He has done practically nothing to call off the boycott. In fact, what he has done has strengthened the hands of the boycotters. His proclamations have not said anything against the boycott or the right of the merchants to boycott. All he has said that there must be no coercion. Men are at liberty to buy when and where they please. This is interpreted by the boycotters as a declaration in favour of the boycott. In fact the Viceroy has as much as said "You call off your treaty and I will call off the boycott."

The most unfortunate part of the whole business is that the Chinese have been led to believe that the treaty will be modified and this to a very considerable extent. It is very uncertain that there will be any modification of the old treaty. What the Chinese may do when they learn of the refusal of the American Government to make any real change is yet to be told. But it is hardly likely that they will take the matter calmly. On the other hand, should there be any material change in the treaty we have then only arrived at the beginning of the boycott movement. Success now will make the Chinese accept this method as a universal remedy. In one respect at least Old China has passed away.

CANTON NOTES.

[*From Our Own Correspondent.*]

Canton, December 29th.

THE PLAGUE.

So far there have been very few cases of plague in Canton. A few cases have been reported in different parts of the city. Chan Tsun, a large city about fifteen miles south west from Canton, has not escaped. There have been a large number of deaths from plague and the rate is on the increase. Chan Tsun is in direct communication with Canton and Hongkong.

CUTTING QUEUES.

Queues are mysteriously disappearing in the western part of the city, Sai Kwan. The Chief of Police has been appealed to for protection. There seems to be a few individuals at work capturing children and cutting off their queues. How this is accomplished is a mystery. The children cannot tell how their queues disappear. Some men and women have also been shorn in this mysterious way. In one section of Sai Kwan over thirty families report missing queues. These families have laid the matter before the chief of police and the matter is now being investigated.

Canton, Jan. 3rd, 1905.

PLAGUE.

Kwai-chau, about forty miles south-west from Canton, has been having a bad time with plague. Upwards of thirty deaths occurred in one section of the city within a short time.

A FRAUD.

A half a dozen men wearing the uniform of soldiers and led by a man who passes for a Japanese have been going about the Shun Tak district in the interests of what they call a new insurance society. Robbers have been very bad in the Shun Tak district during the past year or two. These robbers have been cutting the mulberry leaves. In one night these bands can pluck and carry away enough mulberry leaves to make it a very profitable evening's occupation. This new insurance company announced itself through these men to be ready to insure the crop of mulberry leaves. For one dollar an acre the planter was to be insured against all loss and sums varying in amount would be paid for losses. These men have their literature pasted up in several places. The company is alleged to be a Japanese one. Whether any one has been foolish enough to insure I cannot say, but the offer is a very tempting one and the Chinese are easily fooled, and yet such an offer is such a barefaced fraud that few should be misled.

A GRAND REVIEW.

On the 6th of the present moon (Jan. 10th), there will be a grand review of all the students of Canton's many schools. All the boys will be in uniform and will march to the parade ground at the East Gate of the city. These boys have been drilled in the various schools by men appointed by the Viceroy and they will be put through their different exercises on the 10th. Changes are taking place in young China. Five years ago there was no such a thing as exercise for school boys. Now under Government direction every school must have regular drill. China moves.

IN the Hongkong Consistory No. 11, A.A.S.R, The following Ill. Companions have been elected as office-bearers for the year 1906.

Grand Commander,	Ill. Comp.	T. Spafford,	30°
" Orator,	"	H. B. Bridger,	"
" Senior Warden,	"	F. Howell,	"
" Junior "	"	C. Pittock,	"
" Secretary & Treasurer,	"	C. P. Focken,	"
" Master of Ceremonies,	"	Tang Chee,	"
" Chancellor,	"	J. Smith,	"
" Chaplain,	"	W. Farmer,	"
" Master of Works,	"	J. W. Osborne,	"
1st Standard Bearer,	"	W. A. Allen,	"
2nd " "	"	J. Lamm,	"
Grand Director of Music,	"	W. M. Everall,	"
" Aide-De-Camp,	"	C. Lazarus,	"
" Inner Guard,	"	E. R. Udall,	"
Past Commander,	"	O. A. Watkins,	33°
Janitor,	Comp.	J. Vanacoe.	

THE HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

GOVERNOR'S CUP.

2nd inst.

The shooting for the Governor's Cup for the month of December was over the 200 yards range with a possible of 70.

Mr. J. J. Stubbings heads the list and thus is entitled to hold the Cup for the month of January 1906. Messrs. Thomas, Gow and Winterburn each receive a Spoon presented by the Association. Considerable enthusiasm was shown in the shooting for the month, no less than 119 different members attending the various shoots of the month. The membership roll has now reached 213.

The principal scores in the Governor's Cup competition are as follows:—

J. J. Stubbings, 62+10=70, G. E. Thomas, 43+24=67, J. C. Gow 66 scr.=66, W. G. Winterburn, 50+16=66, I. Rankin, 48+18=66, H. Macfarlane, 41+24=65, A. P. Nobbs, 35+30=65, J. C. Peter, 58+6=64, Capt. Barnes Lawrence, 44+20=64, J. E. Bingham, 40+24=64, J. A. Lyon, 51+12=63, G. H. Wakeman, 53+10=63, R. E. O. Bird, 46+16=62, D. Tollan 46+16=62, G. A. Hastings, 42+20=62, W. T. Hoskin, 42+20=62, A. R. Lowe, 38+24=62, Sir F. T. Piggott, 57+4=61, E. W. Terrey, 45+16=61, C. H. W. Kew, 37+24=61, T. P. Cochrane, 36+24=60, C. E. H. Beavis, 53+6=59, A. Jenkins, 53+6=59, W. Goodfellow, 51+8=59, E. A. Irving, 39+20=59, W. L. Carter 52+6=58, A. B. Rouse, 38+20=58, Hon. Mr. G. Stewart 41+16=57, Hon. Mr. W. Chatham, 37+20=57, J. H. Pidgeon, 54+2=56, T. K. Denly, 32+24=56, C. H. Gale, 39+16=55, H. I. Gedge, 35+22=55, W. B. Royce, 46+8=54, J. S. Lewingdon, 42+12=54, I. McCubbin, 40+14=54, A. Mackenzie, 49+4=53, W. H. T. Davis, 47+6=53, Sir H. S. Berkeley, 29+24=53, J. Whittall, 48+4=52, H. W. Fraser, 40+12=52, H. Pinckney, 40+12=52, A. Moir, 40+10=50, H. B. Phelps, 38+12=50.

COMMERCIAL.

RAUB AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING CO.

DECEMBER CRUSHING.

Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly and Potts kindly advise us that they have received a private telegram from Singapore stating that the crushing for December realised 591 ounces smelted gold from 3,696 tons stone.

MONTHLY REPORT.

The following is the General Manager's Report on the Raub Mine for the month ending 2nd December, 1905.

The accompanying sheet of mine measurements and assay results of prospecting work shows a total of 274½' for the period (4 weeks) under review made up of, 1' sinking, 72½ driving, and 191' crosscutting, as against a total of 195' for the previous four weeks.

MINES.

Bukit Koman—440 Level, Drive South.—Here 12' has been driven, making the total 87'. The Lode, 37" wide, assays 5 dwt.

440' Level, Drive North.—This end has been extended 18', bringing the total to 71'. The lode is 27' wide, and worth 5 dwt.

There is a general improvement in both ends on this level: the lode showing more quartz, while the average grade is being maintained. A crosscut is being put off from the south drive to connect with the winze from the 340' level; 8 ft. has been crosscut.

240' Level, Drive South.—This has been advanced 12', making a total of 700'. The lode, 28" wide, is worth 6 dwt. On the north end of this leader driving has been started to facilitate stoping; it is estimated that we shall have about 30' to drive before connecting with the work from the other side; 15' has been driven during the month on a lode 36" wide and assaying 6 dwt.

Crosscuting for stope filling.—141' of this has been done.

Stopes.—The following have been in operation:

Above the 340 Level: 2 Lode 110" and worth 4 dwt.

Above the 240 Level: 3 Lode 68" and worth 6 dwt.

Above the 140 Level; 1 Lode 40" and worth 5 dwt.

BUKIT MALACCA.

No. 2 Level, Drive South.—This has been advanced 14½', bringing the total to 214½' south of the shaft. There is no improvement to record.

This end has now passed out of the limits of the ore shoot and has become worthless; driving has in consequence been stopped.

The stope in the back of this level contains a lode 52" wide and worth 6 dwt; 193 tons have been sent from here to Koman for treatment.

No. 1 Level, Crosscut West.—This has been extended 22', making a total of 163', and without change.

"STOPE" MINE.

Main Shaft.—This has been sunk 11', making a total depth of 166'. At 160' crosscutting east was commenced, and 20' has been traversed; the ground passed through is hard and most regular in its inclination, which is slightly to the East.

At the shaft the top and bottom station sets have been put in, and other necessary work is now in hand.

From the surface workings 538 tons have been sent to the mill, worth 4 dwt.

PLANT AND MACHINERY.

The Huntington mills at Bukit Malacca have for, some time been showing signs of heavy wear, and have necessitated some stoppages for repairs, which accounts for the small tonnage treated.

The new hoist and other machinery are in good working order.

Separate milling returns and Cost Sheet accompany this.

Milling Returns—4 weeks ending 2nd December, 1905.

BUKIT MALACCA.

No. 1 mill ran 21 days	Crushing 1,646 tons surface ore.
" 2 " " 15 "	

Total tons crushed: 1,887, yielding 141 oz. smelted gold=1.49 dwt. per ton.

Bukit Koman—Stamps working: 40.

Period of work: 28 days, less 0.77 days for repairs and clean up.

Ore milled: Bukit Koman 2,641 tons
"Stope" 558 "
Total 3,199 tons.

Total amalgam won: 1,677 oz producing 549.312 oz. smelted gold.

Average fineness of total bullion: 910.13

Average value of yield: 3.43 dwt.

" " " tailings 2 dwt.

W. H. MARTIN,
General Manager.

SEVEN YEARS' RESULTS.

The following comparative table of results for the past seven years is compiled by Messrs. Erich Georg & Co.

	Ores crushed.	Gold.
Year 1899	14,065 tons	11,274 oz.
" 1900	19,116	12,651
" 1901	13,180	18,369
" 1902	31,570	11,806
" 1903	42,563	10,335
" 1904	37,554	7,201
" 1905	62,702	8,174

THE "SHELL" TRANSPORT & TRADING CO., LD.

Following is the report to the 31st Dec., 1904, kindly forwarded to us by Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.:—The chairman and directors have the pleasure to present the accounts for the year 1904.

The Asiatic Petroleum Co.'s accounts for the same period have just been received. The differences between the actual results and the estimated ones for 1903 are now adjusted in the company's books.

Including the amount brought forward from 1903, there stands to the credit of profit and loss £524,075 7s. 1d.

After deduction of management expenses (including office rent, salaries, and expenses), and directors' and auditors' fee, £22,150; income tax, £8,064 0s. 11d.; the sum of £103,021 19s. 11d. as a provision for depreciation on steamers, installations, &c., writing £10,000 from the costs and expenses of preference shares issue, and writing £3,713 3s. 5d. from American expenses, the balance of profit and loss to be carried forward to the balance sheet is £257,815 17s.

After providing for the preference dividend and for the dividend on the ordinary shares of 5% per annum paid on the 1st January of this year (which together absorbed £150,000) there remains to be carried forward the sum of £107,815 17s.

The chairman and directors regret the cost of establishing their foothold on the European markets, owing to the ruthless competition they have had to meet, but have thereby secured a position which should have substantial results in the future.

The account of the Nederlandsch-Indische Industrie en Handel Maatschappij are now in order, and the Balance-Sheet as rendered to the Shareholders is certified by Messrs. Turquand, Youngs and Co.

The production of the Borneo fields continues most satisfactory. Shipments to date this year, as compared with the similar periods of 1904 and 1903, are approximately as follows:—

	1905.	1904.	1903.
Kerosene	106,501	59,243	12,583
Liquid fuel	125,811	113,720	91,831
Benzine, crude oil & sundries	34,599	16,629	817

The weekly production of kerosene for the last 5 weeks has averaged 3,980 tons per week.

The chairman and directors record with deep regret the deaths, in November, of their valued colleagues Mr. Isaac Henderson and Mr. A. Runge.

Mr. Philip Arnhold resigned his directorship on the 3rd October, owing to his proceeding on a prolonged visit to the Far East, and the Board have appointed Mr. Harry Edward Arnhold to fill the vacancy.

The retiring directors, Mr. S. Samuel, Mr. W. F. Mitchell and Mr. R. J. Black (all of whom being eligible) offer themselves for re-election. The appointment of Mr. H. E. Arnhold also requires confirmation.

The auditors, Messrs. Turquand, Youngs and Co., retire under Art. 100 of the Articles of Association, and are eligible for re-election.

(Signed by Order of the Board),
E. A. SMITH-REWSE,
Secretary.

The accounts are as follows:—

Dr.

To management (covering office rent, salaries and expenses), directors' and auditors' fees	£ 22,150 0 0	
To balance of income tax (years 1903 and 1904)	8,064 0 11	
To provision for depreciation of steamers, with £20,000 in respect of installations, &c., and £950.15.6 of special extensions	103,021 19 16	
To amount written off, costs and expenses of the issue of preference shares	10,000 0 0	
To amount written off, American expenses	3,713 3 5	
To cost of working European oil business, including provision for results of the trading to 30th April, 1905	112,685 5 10	
To London Oil Development Co., (cost of investment written off)	6,625 0 0	
To balance carried to balance sheet	257,815 17 0	
		£524,075 7 1

Cr.

By balance from year 1903 (£158,852 18s. 9d. *less* dividend paid 1st Jan., 1904, £100,000)	£ 58,852 18 9	
By net profits for the year 1904, including chartered and other freights, rents of installations, interest and dividends receivable from the Nederlandsch-Indische Company, the P. P. A. G., and the Asiatic Petroleum Company, also further profits from the last named on account of the year 1903 previously estimated	465,222 8 4	
		£524,075 7 1

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1904.

Liabilities.

To capital authorised and paid up:— 100,000 preference shares of £10 each	1,000,000 0 0	
2,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	2,000,000 0 0	
		3,000,000 0 0
To creditors:— Bills payable	34,656 10 10	
On current accounts	183,906 3 4	
Unmatured liabilities and charges upon steamers and installations, &c.	607,583 14 10	
		826,146 9 0
To drafts current against shipments		27,241 11 10
To dividend accrued to date on preference shares (payable 1st April, 1905	12,500 0 0	
To insurance fund	4,144 14 5	
To reserve fund— Amount as shown in balance sheet at 31st December, 1903		400,000 0 0
To profit and loss account:— Balance per statement above	257,815.17 0	
Deduct preference share dividend for one year to 31st Dec., 1901	50,000 0 0	
		207,815.17 0
APPROPRIATION. Dividend on ordinary shares paid 1st Jan., 1905	100,000 0 0	
Carried forward	107,815.17 0	
	£207,815.17 0	
		£4,477,848.12 3

ASSETS.

By property of the Company, viz.:—Steamships, freeholds, buildings, wharves, storage works, plant and installations, &c.		
Amount as per balance sheet at 31st Dec., 1903	£3,048,623.11 0	
Deduct proceeds of sales of installations *less* expenditure in 1904 on extension of installations and on steamers	33,104 9 6	
		£3,015,519 1 6
Deduct provision for depreciation of steamers and in respect of installations, &c., viz.:— Amount at 31st Dec., 1903	394,320.11 1	
Amount added this year	102,071 4 5	
Amount added this year a/c Special Extension	950.15 6	
		£497,342.11 0
		£2,518,176.10 6
By advances to the Nederlandsch Indische Industrie en Handel Maatschappij, represented by an "Undertaking" to issue 5 per cent. bonds		840,000 0 0
By Debtors on Current account (including certified estimates of amounts recoverable under Marine Policies)		57,786 5 4
By accounts with Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd		173,893 4 0
By accounts with the Nederlandsch Indische Industrie en Handel Maatschappij		69,772.11.10
By unexpired marine insurance premiums and balances in respect of pending voyages		44,160.16 2
By stocks of petroleum oil and liquid fuel afloat and in store at cost, freight, and insurance		31,363.15 8
By sundry stocks		7,893 8 8
By balance of cost and expenses of the issue of preference shares (less £30,000 written off to this date)		29,109 18 1
By balance of American expenses as per balance sheet of 1903	7,085.19 7	
Add expenditure in 1904	627 3.10	
	7,713 3 5	
Less written off this year to profit and loss account	3,713 3 5	
		4,000 0 0
By shares in the Petroleum Producte Actien Gesellschaft (marks 3,000,000) at cost		161,025.14 2
By shares in the Nederlandsche Indische Industrie en Handel Maatschappij (Fl. 2,000,000 nominal, being the capital of the Company) at cost		183,622 3 5
By shares in the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Ld., at cost		200,000 0 0
By bills receivable in hand		24,872.18 4
By cash at bankers		131,871.16 1
		£4,477,848.12 3

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly & Potts, in their report of 5th inst., write:—There has been a distinctly healthier tone in our market during the week and a larger business has resulted. The demand for stocks, which has been fairly general, has had the effect of raising prices in several instances and, what is always a good sign, Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have improved to a considerable extent.

A table of comparative value of stocks on 31st December for the past ten years is appended on the fourth page of this circular, which, we think, will be of interest to our readers.

At the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, held yesterday, the special resolution referred to in our previous circular was submitted and confirmed, and the Society is now in a position to deal with the shares in the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited, in accordance with the terms of the Society's offer.

Banks.—A persistent demand for shares in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has created a regular boom in the stock which has been negotiated at advancing rates up to $895. The latest quotation in London is £93. Nationals are still in request at $38.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are offering at the further reduced rate of $315. China Traders have continued to improve and after sales at various prices are now wanted at $90. Unions have been done at $717½ and close in demand at $720. North Chinas have advanced to Tls. 95 while Yangtszes remain quiet at $170.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have gone up to $90 and are inquired for. Hongkong Fires are steady at $330.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have changed hands at $25 and $25½ at which latter rate more shares can be placed. Indo-Chinas have hardened and close at $92; in Shanghai, shares are in request at Tls. 65½. China and Manilas have been sold at $20. Douglas Steamships have risen and are wanted at $36½. Star Ferries can be obtained at $32 (old) and $23 (new). Shell Transports are quoted at 22s. 6d. ex the dividend of 1s. paid in London on the 1st instant.

Refineries.—China Sugars have improved to $205. Luzons have been placed at $25.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have again changed hands at Tls. 9. Raubs have been disposed of at $4 and now close at $4½. Private advices from Singapore state that during the month of December, 3,696 tons of stone were crushed for a yield of 591 ounces of smelted gold.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are quiet at $164. Farnhams were booked at Tls. 126 and have since declined to Tls. 124, at which rate shares are obtainable. Kowloon Wharfs are inquired for at $108. Hongkew Wharfs have experienced a further substantial rise and close in demand at Tls. 225.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have been dealt in at $125. Shanghai Lands have changed ownership at Tls. 120. West Points have found buyers at $55. Hongkong Hotels have ruled steady with sales at $150. Humphreys Estates have advanced to $13.

Cotton Mills.—Quotations are practically unaltered.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements continue in strong demand at $28½, but holders will not part except at higher prices. A. S. Watsons have been fixed at $13. Electrics remain firm with buyers at $15 for the old and at $14½ for the new shares. Bell's Asbestos have changed hands at $7½. Dairy Farms can be placed at $15½ and William Powells are wanted at $10½. Langkats are firmer and have inquiries at Tls. 210.

SHANGHAI SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. Sullivan & Co. writing from Shanghai, on 28th ult., report:—

By the arrival of the Viceroy of the province and the Governor of Soochow under imperial commands, the riots have ceased for the present, but the settlement is still under arms to prevent, if necessary by force, any further disturbance. In consequence, our market is inactive and no freedom in dealing is possible. The Christmas holidays have also interfered and there is but little to record excepting the necessary squaring up for the annual settlement. London exchange is slightly easier and is quoted at 2/10½ for T. T. For 3 days' sight in Hongkong the rate has been lowered to 70¾. Consols £89¾.

Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Co.'s shares have been largely dealt in for the settlement from Tls. 207½ to Tls. 210, whilst for March Tls. 220/221½ has been paid. Kowloon Wharves have been placed locally at $107 and exc. 70¾. Yangtsze Godowns are wanted.

Shipping.—Indo-Chinas have been dealt in for cash and this month's account at Tls. 65. For March, Tls. 67½ has been given.

Dock.—Farnham Boyds & Co. have declared an interim dividend of Tls. 4 payable 6th proximo. The stock rallied temporarily, but beyond a spurt of 3 points the market was generally unaffected and to-day there are free sellers at Tls. 130/129. Business is announced for the clearance at Tls. 131/130 and for March at Tls. 133½/132.

Lands.—Shanghais are in demand at Tls. 120.

Sugars.—In the absence of business, rates are nominal.

Cottons.—Ewos have been forced to-day at Tls. 44 ex. div. Laou-Kung-Mows have had attention at Tls. 54 for cash and Tls. 57 for March.

Mining.—Nothing quoted.

Tobaccos.—In Sumatras there is nothing doing. Langkats have been placed at Tls. 207½/209,210 for cash and account. For March Tls. 217½, Tls. 220/222½ are reported.

FREIGHT.

In their report of 31st ult. Messrs. Lamke and Rogge write:—

Since issue of last circular on the 15th inst the position of this market has remained quite unchanged, there is next to nothing doing for non-liners.

The settlements of the fortnight, as far as they are reported, comprise a further fixture from Hongay to Canton at $1.75 per ton, a charter from Wakamatzu to this port at $1.40 per ton, and the engagement of a medium sized steamer second half January loading Saigon to 1 port N. C. Java at 24 cents per picul.

Nothing definite is known as to when the condition of the new Saigon crop's grain will permit of export on any large scale; it is unsafe therefore to say when Saigon shippers may approach this market with extensive chartering orders. The chances are that during all January freights will be ruling dull, adversely influenced as they are also by other causes. Prices for Japan coal continue high, and would seem to make business, to Southern ports anyhow, almost impossible. The Hongay mines will close up from 5th January to 10th February, in connection with the Chinese New Year which falls due on the 25th prox., and Yangtse freights, what little there might have been of them for outsiders, cannot be counted upon for prompt now since the new likin tax is reported having come into operation after the 25th instant, and is interfering with fresh chartering for the present.

As for shipping prospects generally for 1906, if there has been a very poor Saigon crop last season, the recent war has for the greater part of the current year helped many steamers to profitable employment, and, if reports may be trusted if next year's Cochinchina rice crop is a large one, an enormous increase in tonnage in Eastern waters will have to be reckoned with. An improvement in tramp freights at home, and the dull times now experienced out here, have been instrumental already in the removal from Eastern waters of some few boats, of others it is rumoured that they will be going, but many more may accept homeward charters and yet leave a sufficiently large number to compete. It is probably correct to assume that freight-rates in the South during the ensuing year will largely depend upon whether the Northern trades will eventually absorb so large a percentage of the available tonnage as some claim they will, also, whether or not Japanese-owned steamers will enter the open market to compete for freights in Southern waters.

From Bangkok, the liners now monopolize the coasting trade, and will do so as long as present arrangements last. During the current year, whilst business has been brisk enough, outsiders had only occasionally a freight allowed them to Singapore or this port, and just a few only could chip in under some time charter engagements.

We have nothing new to advise concerning sail freights, there is no sail tonnage loading on the berth.

Disengaged:—British ship *Celtic Chief*, 1,709 tons net reg., British bark *Rose*, 822 tons net reg., British 4-m. bark *Simla*, 1,037 tons net reg. and Norw. ship *Otra*, 1,198 tons net reg.

Departures:—None.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

ON the 8th prox., the China Squadron leaves for Manila and Saigon.

GOVERNMENT contemplates the extension of Conduit Road east and west.

THE plague return for the year just ended shows 304 cases, and 286 deaths.

SIR Claude Macdonald has presented his credentials as Ambassador.

CAPT. B. L. Beddy, Army Service Corps, left on Saturday, per s.s. *Oceana* for Weihaiwei for duty.

THE *Suwo*, ex *Pobieda*, has arrived safely at Sasebo. Her after-mast is gone and her hull is badly battered.

SANITARY measures are now adopted against Hongkong at Manila, Newchwang, Siam, Madras and Burma.

ON and after the 1st January next, the signal station at Victoria Peak will be in charge of the naval authorities.

THE Norwegian whaling steamer *Regina*, 24 tons net, was totally wrecked off Ulsan, Korea, on the 16th ult. No lives were lost.

THE Governor has appointed Mr. C. H. Ross to be a lieutenant in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps with effect from the 3rd inst.

THE Governor has been pleased to grant local rank of captain to Lieutenant C. H. Coleman, 5th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, from the 29th ult.

IT is now officially announced that Baron Mumm von Schwarzenstein, German Minister to China, has been made German Ambassador to Japan.

COMMUNICABLE diseases notified as having occurred in the colony during the week ended 30th ult. were—diphtheria 1, enteric fever 1, and small-pox 1.

Mariners are notified that the fog siren at the Wakkanai lighthouse is temporarily stopped during repairs. The notification is dated from Tokio, 12th inst.

MR. Denman Fuller, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., gave another organ recital in S. John's Cathedral last evening, when a large congregation was given an hour's musical treat.

IN our account of Mr. F. S. Brockman's lecture published in our Thursday's issue, the gentleman who so ably interpreted the lecture was Mr. Cheong Tsoi, not Mr. Ng Nin Po.

THE new Japanese battleships *Kajima* and *Katori*, now being completed in England, are expected to arrive in Japan by August next. The *Kajima* was launched in March last and the *Katori* in July.

THE Nanfangpao says that the lease of Weihaiwei depends on the lease of Port Arthur, and hence the negotiations on the matter with the British Minister can begin only after the new treaty with Japan has been published.

SIR Robert Hart has expressed to the Waiwupu and Hupu the opinion that it is very difficult to carry out the plan of an opium monopoly in China; and H. E. Tieh Liang proposes therefore to adopt some other plan of raising money.

THE Peking treaty opens the following towns to foreign trade: Fênghuangchêng, Linoyang, Hsinmintun, Tiehling, Tungchangtse, Changtu, Fakumên, Changchun, Kirin, Harbin, Hunchun, Sansin, Tsitsihar, Hailar, Argun, Manjuria, the town.

IN a case in Bankruptcy, Jurisdiction on Thursday, before His Honour, Sir Francis Piggott, Chief Justice, it transpired that a Chinese sign-board of a business the sale of which included also the good-will of the business, often commanded $50,000.

THE total quantity of China tea cleared for home consumption in the United Kingdom this year was 5,000,000 lbs. compared and 9,900,000 lbs. last year, and 12,700,000 lbs. in 1903. The quantity cleared of Indian tea was 123,500,000 lbs., and Ceylon 74,800,000 lbs. this year.

MR. William Maxwell, the war correspondent, who is accompanying T.R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales on their tour through India, before he left England completed his book on the Russo-Japanese war. It will be published by Messrs. Hutchinson. Mr. W. H. Mudford has undertaken to see the volume through the press.

THE *Straits Times* understands that H. R. H. Prince Arthur of Connaught is expected to arrive at Singapore on February 2nd *en route* for Japan. In honour of the occasion, all the local Chinese Clubs are organizing a monster lantern procession, etc., which is timed to reach Government House at 10 p.m. H. R. H. will leave Singapore on the 3rd of February.

THE fact that the Kiangnan Dock and Engineering Co. has secured the contracts for the repairs of the *Poyang* and *Kiangfoo* has evidently caused some searching of competitive hearts, says the *N. C. D. News*. The *Poyang* has been docked, and it is found that her whole bow is smashed, her stem being broken in two places. The repairs to the *Kiangfoo's* engine are expected to occupy two months.

A CHAIR coolie was charged at Shanghai last week with plying for hire without a license, within the Settlement, contrary to Municipal regulations. A fine of $1 was imposed in the usual way, but the Magistrate made a strong objection stating that he did not recognise the sedan chair tax. He gave his consent to the fine under protest and marked the charge sheet as follows:—"$1 deposited, to await consideration."

A MEETING of Americans was held at the American Consulate-General at Shanghai on 29th ult. with the view to forming an American Volunteer Company. The Hon. J. L. Rodgers presided. There was a large attendance and, after discussion, an Organising Committee was appointed, also Finance and Bye-law Committees to make the necessary arrangements and report to another meeting to be called on the 5th of January.

AS this journal has on several occasions been prosecuted for unwitting and unimportant infractions of the regulations prohibiting the publication of reports concerning the movements of troops and warships and other matters, which were issued at the commencement of the war, we have satisfaction in noting that these regulations were yesterday (11st ult.) formally withdrawn. As it is now some four months since the hostilities ceased, it cannot be said that the authorities have exhibited any undue haste in this matter.—*Kobe Herald.*

ADMIRAL Togo Masamichi died on 24th ult. at the Maizuru Naval Hospital. He was taken ill shortly after the conclusion of the war. Vice-Admiral Togo Masamichi, as he was known to distinguish him from the Commander-in-Chief, was commander of the third squadron during the war, and was engaged in most of the fighting. Before he breathed his last the deceased officer was decorated with the Second Order of the Golden Kite, carrying with it a pension of Y1,000, and the Second Class of the Order of Merit.

THE *Shwenpao* states that Viceroy Tsen Ch'un-hsuen has telegraphed to Sir Chentung Liang, at Washington, that a number of liberal suggestions made by certain American citizens for the new Chinese Treaty with the U. S. are quite acceptable to the people of China, and adding that if these suggestions can be actively inserted into the Treaty by the U. S. Government, there are those in China who will use their utmost efforts to stop the boycott on American goods and will undertake to bear all blame and punishment if there are further disturbances and trouble caused by the people.

FOLLOWING are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1905, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks.

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	$3,418,617	$2,500,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	15,458,166	10,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	63,410	40,000
Total	$18,940,293	$12,540,000

GENERAL Baron Oku was to leave Tiehling on the 1st of January, and Talien on the 4th, General Nogi will leave Tiehling on the 4th, and Talien on the 7th, General Nozu will leave Tiehling on the 7th, and Talien on the 10th. General Kawamura will leave Tiehling on the 10th, and Talien on the 13th. All are thus expected in Tokio before the end of January, reports a wire to the *N. C. D. News.*

THE Japanese Government has decided to redeem the fourth issue of Treasury Bonds. Redemption to the amount of Y40,000,000 will take place between the 21st and the 31st March next, the drawing of lots being held on the 5th February. Another Y40,000,000 will be redeemed between the 16th and 25th April next, the drawing of lots taking place also on the 5th February, and the balance will be redeemed between the 16th and 25th May. This arrangement was to be officially gazetted on the 20th inst. in Tokio.

THE King has not been advised to exercise his power of disallowance with respect to the following Ordinances:—"Ordinance No. 8 of 1905, entitled—An Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding five million seven hundred and seventeen thousand two hundred and seventy-six dollars to the public service of the year 1906," and "Ordinance No. 11 of 1905, entitled—An Ordinance for raising the sum of two million pounds by loan for the purpose of defraying the cost of a railway from Kowloon and for other railway purposes."

ON the 21st ult. the Waiwupu wired Minister Wang Tah-hsi of London that the following four items shall be asked from the British Foreign Office. 1.—Removal of the Vice-Consul Twyman. 2.—Dismissal of the Police Inspector who was the course of the fracas. 3.—Hereafter detention of Chinese prisoners shall be in the hands of the Chinese authorities. 4.—The purely Chinese cases shall be heard by the Chinese tribunal. Minister Wang has replied that the British Foreign Office has not consented to the same yet. The negotiations are progressing and he is doing his best.

ON Tuesday in Summary Jurisdiction, His Honour Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, presiding, Chiu Hok Chai sued B. Pintos for the recovery of the sum of $179, being balance due from defendant to plaintiff for money lent. Mr. F. Paget Hett, of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. J. Grist of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, for the defendant. Mr. Grist consented to judgment, but asked for payment by instalments. Judgment was accordingly given for plaintiff with costs, the amount due to be payable by monthly instalments of $5, commencing from 1st February next, defendant to have the usual credit for the agreed costs.

DURING yesterday afternoon His Excellency, Major-General Villiers Hatton, and Mrs. Villiers Hatton, were "at home" at Headquarters House, to some 150 children of the Colony, who had been invited to a party in the extensive grounds adjoining the House, and there the small guests enjoyed all sorts of games and other forms of entertainment. His Excellency and Mrs. Villiers Hatton, very capably assisted by Captain E. S. Ward, A.D.C., were most untiring in their efforts to make the time pleasant and enjoyable for the little ones, who did not leave the "pleasure ground" empty-handed, for each child carried away a very nice toy, just suitable to his or her age and sex, after a delightful afternoon.

WHEN His Honour, Mr. A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge, took his seat in the Summary Jurisdiction Court on Tuesday, a case of Lau Kuk Chow against the Shanghai Life Insurance Company, Ld., for the recovery of the sum of $39.00 alleged to be due by the defendant company to the plaintiff, on account of commission and ricksha hire, was called on. Mr. C. F. Dixon, of Mr. John Hastings's office, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. F. Paget Hett, of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring, appeared for the defendant company.—Mr. Hett said that before the case proceeded he must point out to the Court that the plaintiff was an undischarged bankrupt, and therefore had no right to sue, and applied that he be non-suited.—His Honour: Non-suited, but I will make no order as to costs.

BEFORE His Honour, Mr. A. G. Wise, in Summary Jurisdiction, on Tuesday, Rochi Ram sued Hassamull Hatchand for the recovery of the sum of $65, being the amount alleged to be due for money lent by the plaintiff to the defendant. Mr. R. Gardiner, of Mr. O. D. Thomson's office, represented the plaintiff, and Mr. F. Paget Hett, of Messrs. Brutton, Hett and Goldring, the defendant—Mr. Gardiner opened the case and called the plaintiff to prove claim—Mr. Hett, in cross-examination, elicited the fact that the money was lent in Shanghai, not by Rochi Ram personally but by the firm of which he was a member. Mr. Hett then said the plaintiff could not sue in his own name; the suit should have been brought by the firm—The Court held that the suit was wrongly brought, and gave judgment for defendant with costs.

THE new cruiser *Tsukuba*, built at the Kure Naval Yard, was launched on 26th ult. in the presence of his Imperial Highness the Crown Prince. His Imperial Highness, who arrived at Kure on the previous day by the cruiser *Iwate*, landed about 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning, attended by Admiral Togo, Marquis Kido, Marquis Nakayama, and other. war-ships in the harbour fired salutes as Imperial Highness landed. Admiral Arim, Commander of the Kure Port Admiralty, on behalf of the Minister of the Navy, read the address, and Captain Yamanouchi, Director of the Naval Yard, severed the cord, liberating the cruiser, which was successfully launched amidst deafening applause. After the ceremony the Crown Prince retired, and the guests invited were served with a cold collation. There were present over 1,000 officers and various officials.

AT a Regular Quarterly Communication of the District Grand Lodge of Scottish Freemasonry in Hongkong and South China, held in Freemason's Hall, Zetland Street, last week the following were elected as District Grand Lodge officers for 1906:—

District Grand Master Depute,	Mr. Bro.	F. Howell.
Substitute Grand Master,	"	J. Dickie.
District Senior Grand Warden,	"	J. J. Andrew.
" Junior Grand Warden,	"	G. A. Watkins.
" Grand Secretary,	"	H. Horley.
" " Treasurer,	"	T. Bradford.
" Senior Grand Chaplain,	"	C. Pittock.
" Junior Grand Chaplain,	"	J. Smith.
" Senior Grand Deacon,	"	G. F. Fookien.
" Junior Grand Architect,	"	W. C. Jack.
" Grand Director of Ceremonies	"	J. L. Cotter.
" " Sword Bearer,	"	J. W. Last.
" " Organist,	Bro.	C. Tyndale Lea.
" " Standard Bearer,	Wor. Bro.	N. R. Davidson.
" " Inner Guard,	"	H. E. Bridger.
" " Steward,	"	A. W. Hill.
" " "	"	E. A. Chapman.
" " "	"	F. Allen.
" " "	"	J. Ritchie.
" " "	"	J. McGlashan.
" " Tyler	"	J. Vanstone.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)

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$30 PER ANNUM. SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS.

Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

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RESERVE FUND.—
Sterling Reserve.....$10,000,000 } $18,500,000
Silver Reserve .....$ 8,500,000 }
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROP'TORS.$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:
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A. HAUPT, Esq., Deputy Chairman.
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ON FIXED DEPOSITS:
For 3 months, 2½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 6 months, 3½ per Cent. per Annum.
For 12 months, 4 per Cent. per Annum.

J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1905. [21

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER CENT. per annum.

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For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
J. R. M. SMITH,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1902. [22

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HUGO SUTER,
Sub-Manager.

Hongkong, 9th September, 1905. [24

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HONGKONG BRANCH:—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent per Annum on the Daily Balance.
On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent
„ „ 6 „ 4 „
„ „ 3 „ 3 „

TAKEO TAKAMICHI,
Manager.

Hongkong, 25th September, 1905. [19

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„ „ „ 3 „ ... 2½ „

T. P. COCHRANE
Manager.

Hongkong, 18th May, 1905. [23

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6 „ 4 „ „ „ „
3 „ 3 „ „ „ „

H. PINCKNEY,
Manager.

No. 9, Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 19th September, 1905. [20

Intimations.

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(MITSUI & Co.)

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S. MINAMI, Manager, Hongkong.
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GENERAL STOREKEEPERS.

HONGKONG AND CANTON.

Hongkong, 20th September, 1905. [37

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60, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THE Public are informed that my Parlours are open from 9 A.M. all day. My 32 years' experience in TATTOOING is a guarantee of good work and prompt execution. My Colours are absolutely fast and perfectly harmless, and produce a charming effect not attained by any other, as their composition is only known to me. H. R. H. The Duke of York, and H. I. H. The Emperor of Russia, both honoured me with their patronage; besides many others of High Rank. Prices Moderate and satisfaction guaranteed as attested by 3,700 Recommendations which I have received from all sources.

Hongkong, 16th November, 1904. [53

Mails.

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YOKOHAMA VIA SHANGHAI, MOJI and KOBE	SUMATRA ..... E. W. Bruce	About 7th January	Freight and Passage.
LONDON and ANTWERP VIA SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, PORT SAID and MARSEILLES.....	PALMA ..... G. W. Cockman, R.N.R.	Jan. 9th, Daylight	Freight only.
SHANGHAI	ARCADIA ..... A. G. Cubitt, R.N.R.....	About 13th January	Freight and Passage.
LONDON, &c.....	DELTA ..... C. L. Daniel.....	Jan. 13th, Noon	*See Special Advertisement.*

For Further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1906. [4

Intimations.

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HARDWARE DEPARTMENT.

NEW STOCKS JUST ARRIVED
OF

BRASS CURBS, FENDERS, BRASSES, FIRE IRONS & DOGS, COAL VASES.

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Hongkong, 30th, October, 1905. [40

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GRAND FORMAT	Per Tin of	50	$1.75
GOLD TIPPED	„ „	50	1.60
STAR OF INDIA	„ „	100	2.75
PRINCESS	„ „	100	2.20
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Telephone No. 7

SOLE AGENTS
CALDBECK MACGREGOR & CO.,
15, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1905. [46

THE ORIENTAL CONSTRUCTION COMPANY,
CONSULTING AND SUPERVISING ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS,
HONGKONG, SHANGHAI AND MANILA.

SPECIALISTS
IN
RAILWAYS, MINES, WATER SUPPLIES,
REINFORCED CONCRETE, CONCRETE PILES.

ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 12th July, 1905. [47

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TRAMWAYS COMPANY, LIMITED,
IN LIQUIDATION.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.

7.00 a.m.	to 7.30 a.m.	...Every 30 minutes.
7.30 a.m.	to 8.00 a.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
8.00 a.m.	to 8.30 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m.	to 9.30 a.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m.	to 11.00 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
11.30 a.m.	to 12.45 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m.	to 1.15 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m.	to 1.45 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m.	to 2.15 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m.	to 3.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m.	to 5.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m.	to 8.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS.
8.45 p.m. and 9 p.m., 9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. every half hour.

SUNDAYS.

8.00 a.m.	to 9.00 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
9.00 a.m.	to 9.30 a.m.	...Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m.	to 10.30 a.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m.	to 11.00 a.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
12.00 Noon	to 1.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m.	to 5.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m.	to 6.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m.	to 7.00 p.m.	...Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m.	to 8.00 p.m.	...Every 10 minutes.

NIGHT CARS as on Week Days.

SATURDAYS.
Extra cars at 11.30 and 11.45 p.m.

SPECIAL CARS by Arrangement at the Company's Office, ALEXANDRA BUILDINGS, Des Vœux Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
Liquidators.

Hongkong, 12th July, 1905. [67

ST. GEORGE'S BALL.

SUBSCRIBERS to ST. GEORGE'S BALL are requested to forward their SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Undersigned not later than the 15th instant.

W. C. D. TURNER,
Hon. Treas.,
C/o H. & S. Bank.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [87

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE 1906 RACE MEETING will be held on MONDAY, 12th February, and TWO FOLLOWING DAYS, not on the 1st, 2nd and 3rd March, as previously arranged for.

ENTRIES WILL CLOSE on SATURDAY, 20th January next.

In all other respects the programme as issued will stand.

By Order,
T. F. HOUGH,
Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [92

COLD STORAGE.

THE HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD., have now 40,000 Cubic feet of COLD STORAGE available at EAST POINT. Stores will be Open at 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. daily, Sunday excepted, to receive and deliver perishable goods.

WM. PARLANE,
Manager.

Hongkong, 22nd June, 1905. [91

Intimations.

Anywhere and any time

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BOVRIL

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OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

".....everyone is bound to appreciate the departure from the stereotyped canons which this magazine promises.....its pages are bright without being shocking.—Its articles crisp, original, and well written, its illustrations are artistic and enhance the value of the journal....."—*Hongkong Daily Press*, 27th October, 1905.

"The praise which we gave to the first number of the COSMOPOLITAN may honestly be repeated in reference to the second number.....There is something very attractive in the unity which pervades the magazine through its being a one man affair, and that one man being such an acute student of passing events and wielding such a vigorous pen."—*N.-C. Daily News*, 30th October, 1905.

".....The many articles are well and brightly written.....there should be little doubt of success ...."—*Shanghai Times*, 20th September, 1905.

".....Though the language of the staff is not English, the English of THE COSMOPOLITAN, idiomatically and grammatically, is irreproachable."—*China Gazette*, 22nd September, 1905.

".....Among these are 'The Art of Eating,' a witty and observant discourse on moderm table manners.....It is certainly a heterogenous collection of wit and wisdom, *but it is the ideal of a Far Eastern magazine*, for it will sober the over-spirited or brighten the gloomy, just as the spirit moves the reader ..... Taken altogether THE COSMOPOLITAN is brightly written, up-to-date, and entirely interesting....."—*Hongkong Telegraph*, 29th September, 1905.

".....Le champ d'observation de notre nouveau confrère est si vaste que nous croyons que la "copie" ne lui manquera pas, et nous lui souhaitons tout le succes desirable."—*L'Echo de Chine*, 20th September, 1905.

".....quite a new feature in Far Eastern journalism.....the quality of the letterpress is well worth the handsome setting.....We have found a good deal of sound common sense in articles as well as no little fun and humour..... matters calculated to interest not only the foreigner in Shanghai and Chinese Treaty ports, but in Japan".—*Japan Chronicle*, 12th October, 1905.

".....It is a very promising publication. The pictures are excellent.....one wonders how it is to be produced month after month"—*Japan Daily Mail*, 13th October, 1905.

In a few months the magazine will be written for subscribers only, and you will not be able to buy single copies.

The Christmas number will contain about 150 pages with nearly 100 illustrations and will cost $2.00 to non-subscribers whereas subscribers will get it at the usual price of $1.00.

SUBSCRIPTION.—$6.00 for six months plus 50 cents postage. Subscribers joining now may still get back-numbers from September, but as we have only 81 copies left for September and 52 for October it will be necessary to apply at once to:—

THE COSMOPOLITAN,
35, SZECHUEN ROAD, SHANGHAI.

Please note my name as a subscriber to the COSMOPOLITAN for 6 months beginning from.....

Enclosed please find $6.50.

Name of Subscriber.....

Address.....

Hongkong, 12th December, 1905. [1233—E

"MINIMAX"
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FIRE EXTINGUISHER.

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F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
LOCAL AGENTS.

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Extinguishes Oil, Varnish, Kerosine Oil, Tar, Benzine.
Guaranteed to remain in working order for any length of time.
SIMPLEST HANDLING.
Drive in the Knob and the apparatus is in action immediately, sending Spray nearly 40 feet.

IMPORTANT POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

Is Self-acting, Destroys all smoke. Can be used by anyone, even lady or child. Minimum of Price, Weight and Size.

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Always ready for immediate use. Requires only one hand to hold. Weight only 18 lbs. when full. Maximum of simplicity and effect.

Hongkong, 10th May, 1905. [33

Hotel.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

Military Band during dinner on Saturday Nights.

H. HAYNES,
Manager.

Hongkong, 20th December, 1905. [6

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG, CANTON, MACAO AND WEST RIVER STEAMERS.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD., AND THE CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LTD.

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S.S. "HONAM," .....2,363 tons .....Captain H. D. Jones.
" "POWAN," .....2,338 " ..... " G. F. Morrison, R.N.R.
" "FATSHAN," .....2,260 " ..... " R. D. Thomas.
" "HANKOW," .....3,073 " ..... " C. V. Lloyd.
" "KINSHAN," .....1,995 " ..... " J. J. Lossius.

Departures from HONGKONG to CANTON daily at 8.30 A.M. (Sunday excepted), 9 P.M. and 10.30 P.M. (Saturday excepted).

Departures from CANTON to HONGKONG daily at 8.30 A.M., 3 P.M. and 5.30 P.M. (Sunday excepted).

These Steamers, carrying His Majesty's Mails, are the largest and fastest on the River, Special attention is drawn to their Superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation.

SERVICE OF THE HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "HEUNGSHAN," .....1,998 tons.....Captain W. E. Clarke.

Departures from Hongkong to Macao on week days at 2 P.M. Departures on Sundays at Noon.

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This steamer leaves Canton for Macao every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at about 8 A.M.; and leaves Macao for Canton every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 7.30 A.M.

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S.S. "SAINAM," .....588 tons .....Captain W. A. Valentine.
" "NANNING,".....569 " ..... " C. Butchart.

One of the above steamers leaves Canton for Wuchow every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 8 A.M. calling at Yunki, Mahning, Kumchuk, Kau-Kong, Samshui, Howlik, Shiu-Hing, Luk-Po, Luk-To, Lo-Ting-Hau, Tak-Hing, Doshing and Fong-Chuen. Departures from Wuchow for Canton calling at the above ports every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at about 8.30 A.M.

FARES:—Canton to Wuchow.....Single $15.00. Return $25.00.
Canton to Tak Hing .....Single $12.50. Return $21.00.
Canton to Samshui.....Single $7.50.

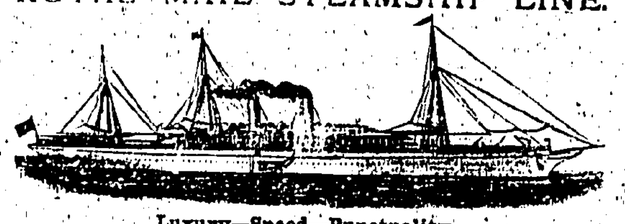
The above vessels have superior Saloon and Cabin accommodation and are lighted throughout by electricity. Meals charged extra.

Further particulars may be obtained at the Office of the—

HONGKONG, CANTON & MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LD.,
Hotel Mansions, (First Floor) opposite the Hongkong Hotel,
Or of BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents, CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1906. [10

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO'Y'S ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.



Luxury—Speed—Punctuality.

The only Line that Maintains a Regular Schedule Service of 12 Days across the Pacific is the "Empress Line." Saving 3 to 7 Days Ocean Trial.

12 Days YOKOHAMA TO VANCOUVER. 21 Days HONGKONG TO VANCOUVER.

PROPOSED SAILINGS. *(Subject to Alteration).*

R.M.S.	Tons	Leave Hongkong	Arrive Vancouver
"EMPRESS OF CHINA"	6,000	WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10	Jan. 31
"ATHENIAN"	2,440	WEDNESDAY, Jan. 24	Feb. 17
"EMPRESS OF INDIA"	6,000	WEDNESDAY, Feb. 7	Feb. 28
"TARTAR"	4,425	WEDNESDAY, Feb. 21	Mar. 17
"EMPRESS OF JAPAN"	6,000	WEDNESDAY, Mar. 7	Mar. 28

THE Quickest route to CANADA, UNITED STATES and EUROPE, calling at SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, (through the INLAND SEA OF JAPAN), KOBE, YOKOHAMA, VICTORIA, connecting at VANCOUVER with the COMPANY'S PALATIAL OVERLAND TRAINS FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE.

Hongkong to London, 1st Class.....*viâ* St. Lawrence £60. *Viâ* New York £62.
Hongkong to London, Intermediate on Steamers, and 1st Class Rail ..... " £40. " £42.

R.M.S. "TARTAR" and "ATHENIAN" carry "Intermediate" Passengers only at Intermediate rates, affording superior accommodation for that class.

Passengers Booked through to all principal points and AROUND THE WORLD.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan Governments.

For further information, Maps, Routes, Hand Books, Rates of Freight and Passage, apply to D. E. BROWN, General Agent,

Hongkong, 13th December, 1905. *Corner Pedder Street and Praya, opposite Blake Pier.* [13

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE.

OSTASIATISCHER DIENST.

(Taking Cargo at through Rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, COPENHAGEN, LISBON, OPORTO, LONDON, LIVERPOOL, GLASGOW, TRIESTE, GENOA, PORTS IN THE LEVANTE; BLACK SEA and BALTIC PORTS; NORTH and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, *SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.*

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.	
AMBRIA ..... Wünnenberg	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	17th Jan.	Freight.
BRISGAVIA..... Russ.....	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	24th Jan.	Freight.
RHENANIA * ..... Förck	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	10th Feb.	Freight and Passengers.
SPEZIA ..... Porzelius	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	21st Feb.	Freight.
SAMBIA..... Ehlers	HAVRE and HAMBURG. (Calling at S'PORE, PENANG & COLOMBO).	12th March	Freight.
ANDALUSIA ..... Filler	FOR ODESSA (DIRECT). (Calling at SINGAPORE and COLOMBO).	About 12th Jan.	Freight.

* Special attention of intending Passengers is drawn to the splendid accommodation of this steamer. Saloon and cabins amidships. Lighted throughout by Electricity. Duly qualified Doctors are carried.

For further Particulars, apply to

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
HONGKONG OFFICE,
King's Buildings.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1906. [5

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN,

PLUNKET'S GAP, the PEAK, near the TRAM TERMINUS, Tel. 56.

For Terms, &c., apply to the MANAGER.

Hongkong, 23d July, 1905. [31

Mails.

IMPERIAL GERMAN MAIL LINES.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD, BREMEN.

EUROPEAN LINE.

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, NAPLES, GENOA, ANTWERP, BREMEN/HAMBURG; PORTS IN THE LEVANTE, BLACK SEA AND BALTIC PORTS; ALSO LONDON, NEW YORK, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, NEW ORLEANS, GALVESTON, AND SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS;

Steamers will call at GIBRALTAR and SOUTHAMPTON to land Passengers and Luggage.

N.B.—Cargo can be taken on through Bills of Lading for the Principal Places in Russia.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.)

STEAMERS.	SAILING DATES.
GNEISENAU	WEDNESDAY, 17th January.
ROON	WEDNESDAY, 31st January.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 14th February.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 28th February.
PRINZESS ALICE	WEDNESDAY, 14th March.
BAYERN	WEDNESDAY, 28th March.
PRINZ REGENT LUITPOLD	WEDNESDAY, 11th April.
PRINZ EITEL FRIEDRICH	WEDNESDAY, 25th April.
SACHSEN	WEDNESDAY, 9th May.
PRINZ HEINRICH	WEDNESDAY, 23rd May.
ROON	WEDNESDAY, 6th June.
PREUSSEN	WEDNESDAY, 20th June.
ZIETEN	WEDNESDAY, 4th July.
OLDENBURG	WEDNESDAY, 18th July.

ON WEDNESDAY, the 17th day of January, 1906, at Noon, the Steamship *GNEISENAU*, Capt. Bolte, with MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE and CARGO, will leave this Port as above. Calling at NAPLES and GENOA.

Shipping Orders will be granted till NOON, on MONDAY, the 15th instant, Cargo and Specie will be received on Board until 5 P.M., on TUESDAY, the 16th instant, and Parcels will be received at the Agency's Office until NOON, on TUESDAY, the 16th instant.

Contents of Packages are required. No Parcel Receipts will be signed for less than $2.00 and Parcels should not exceed Two Cubic Feet in Measurement.

The Steamer has splendid Accommodation and carries a Doctor and Stewardesses.

Linen can be washed on board.

JAPAN-CHINA-AUSTRALIA LINE, VIA NEW GUINEA.

STEAM FOR SIMPSONHAFEN, FRIEDRICH-WILHELMSHAFEN, HERBERTSHOEHE, MATUPI, BRISBANE, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

(Subject to alteration).

STEAMERS.	TONS.	SAILING DATES.
PRINZ WALDEMAR	3,227	TUESDAY, 9th January.
PRINZ SIGISMUND	3,302	TUESDAY, 6th February.
WILLEHAD	4,762	TUESDAY, 6th March.

ON TUESDAY, the 9th January, 1906, at Noon, the Steamship *PRINZ WALDEMAR*, Capt C. Wollemas, with Mails, Passengers and Cargo, will leave this port as above.

The steamer has splendid accommodation and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess.

Linen can be washed on board.

SAILINGS OUTWARDS.

EUROPEAN & AUSTRALIAN SERVICE.

DIRECT FOR YOKOHAMA AND KOBE.

FOR	STEAMER	ABOUT
YOKOHAMA & KOBE	*PRINZ SIGISMUND**	TUESDAY, 16th Jan.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*PREUSSEN*	WEDNESDAY, 17th Jan.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	*ZIETEN*	WEDNESDAY, 31st Jan.

* Reaching Yokohama in less than 6 days.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

For further Particulars, apply to

MELCHERS & CO., AGENTS.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [7

WEST RIVER BRITISH STEAMSHIP CO.

HONGKONG-KONGMOON AND KAUKONG LINES.

S.S. "TAK HING."

SAILS every SUNDAY, TUESDAY, and THURSDAY, AT 7 P.M., for the above Ports. THE ROUND TRIP OCCUPIES ONLY 36 HOURS.

HONGKONG-WUCHOW LINE.

S.S. "LINTAN" and S.S. "SAN-UI."

SAILING TWICE A WEEK. THE ROUND TRIP OCCUPIES 5½ DAYS.

THE steamers sail from HONGKONG to SAMSHUI, SHUIHING, TAKHING and WUCHOW. They pass through the Canton delta, and steam up about 150 miles through the gorges, and beautiful scenery of the West River.

Fare for the Round Trip $30

These steamers have Excellent Saloon Accommodation, and are Lighted by Electricity.

For further information, apply to—

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS,
WEST RIVER BRITISH S.S. CO., HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [14

Dentistry.

Dr. M. H. CHAUN,
THE LATEST METHOD of the AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY,
37, DES VŒUX ROAD CENTRAL,
From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
Hongkong, 22nd July, 1905. 70

TSIN TING.
LATEST METHODS OF DENTISTRY.
STUDIO AT No. 14, D'AGUILAR STREET.
REASONABLE FEES.
Consultation Free.
Hongkong, 10th July, 1905. [68

WILTSHIRE
As Supplied to
HARRIS'S
His Majesty The KING
BACON & HAMS
Gold Medals PARIS 1889 & 1900
Regd HARRIS CALNE WILTS Brand
HARRIS, CALNE, WILTS, England.

REPRESENTATIVES FOR HONGKONG & CHINA,
HOWARD & Co.,
50, Queen's Road Central,
Hongkong.
Hongkong, 19th May, 1905. [65

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS, COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS, NAVAL CONTRACTORS AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS,
GROUND FLOOR,
ST. GEORGE'S BUILDING,
HONGKONG,
SOAP AND SODA MANUFACTURERS.
SOLE AGENTS FOR
HARTMANN'S RAHTJEN'S GENUINE COMPOSITION RED HAND BRAND, HARTMANN'S GREY PAINT, DAIMLER'S PATENT MOTOR LAUNCHES,
&c., &c., &c.
Sole Agents for
FERGUSON'S SPECIAL CREAM
and
P. & O. SPECIAL LIQUEUR SCOTCH WHISKY, &c.
EVERY KIND OF
SHIP'S STORES AND REQUISITES ALWAYS IN STOCK
AT
REASONABLE PRICES.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1905. [51

Intimations.

THE YOKOHAMA DOCK CO., LTD.

No. 1 DOCK.
Length inside, 514 ft. Width of entrance, top 95 ft.; bottom 75 ft. Water on blocks, 27.5ft. Time to pump out, 4 hours.

No. 2 DOCK.
Length inside, 375 ft. Width of entrance, top 60.5 ft.; bottom 45.8 ft. Water on blocks, 26.5 ft. Time to pump out, 2 hours.

THESE DOCKS are conveniently situated in Yokohama harbour and the attention of Captains and Engineers is respectfully called to the advantages offered for Docking and repairing Vessels and Machinery of every description.

The plant and tools are of recent patterns for dealing quickly and cheaply with work, and a large stock of material is always at hand, (plates and angles all being tested by Lloyds' surveyors).

Two powerful Twin Screw Towboats are available for taking Vessels in or out of Dock, and for taking Sailing Vessels in or out of the bay. The floating derrick is capable of lifting 35 tons.

Steam Launches of Steel or Wood, Lighters, Steel Buildings and Roofs, Bridge Work, and all kinds of Machinery are made on the premises.

Tenders will be made up when required and the workmanship and material will be guaranteed.

The cost of Docking, and repair work, will be found to compare favourably with that of any port in the world.

Telephone: Nos. 376, 506, or 681.
Telegrams, "Dock, Yokohama," Codes A. B. C. 4th and 5th Edt. Liebers, Scotts, A. 1, and Watkins.

Yokohama, May 23rd, 1905. [39

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION CO.

Homeward Passenger Season, 1906.

PROPOSED SAILINGS OF MAIL STEAMERS FOR

MARSEILLES & LONDON

TAKING PASSENGERS ALSO FOR COLOMBO, INDIA, AUSTRALASIA, EGYPT, BRINDISI, &c. THROUGH TICKETS ISSUED TO NEW YORK.

Steamers to Colombo.	Tons.	Leave Hongkong. Noon,	Saturday.	Connecting Steamers from Colombo to Marseilles & London.	Tons.	Due at Marseilles (Brindisi 2 days earlier). Saturday.	Due at Plymouth (London 1 day later). Friday.
ARCADIA	7,000	Feb.	10	BRITANNIA	7,000	Mar. 10	Mar. 16
DELHI	8,000	Feb.	24	MOLDAVIA	10,000	Mar. 24	Mar. 30
DONGOLA	8,000	Mar.	10	MONGOLIA	10,000	April 7	April 13
DELTA	8,000	Mar.	24	MOOLTAN	10,000	April 21	April 27
OCEANA	7,000	April	7	MARMORA	10,500	May 5	May 11
						Sunday.	Saturday.
ARCADIA	7,000	April	21	VICTORIA	7,000	May [illegible]	May 26
DEVANHA	8,000	May	5	HIMALAYA	7,000	June 3	June 9
DELHI	8,000	May	19	INDIA	8,000	June 17	June 23

Passengers change steamers at Colombo, and those for Brindisi transfer also to the Express Mail Steamer at Port Said.

Accommodation in the connecting steamer from Colombo is arranged in Hongkong at time of booking. In addition to the above Mail Steamers the following

INTERMEDIATE (NON-TRANSHIPMENT) STEAMERS WILL LEAVE FOR

LONDON,

CARRYING SALOON PASSENGERS AT REDUCED RATES.

STEAMERS.	Tonnage.	Leave Hongkong About	Due at London About
† JAPAN	4,500	Feb. 14	Mar. 31
‡ SUMATRA	5,000	Feb. 28	April 14
‡ NUBIA	6,000	Mar. 14	April 28
† JAVA	4,500	Mar. 28	May 12
† FORMOSA	4,500	April 11	May 26

These Steamers call also at Singapore, Penang, Colombo, and at Malta or Marseilles.
‡ "SUMATRA" and "NUBIA" call at MARSEILLES.
† "JAPAN," "JAVA" and "FORMOSA" carry only First Saloon Passengers.

For Passage, apply to—

E. A. HEWETT, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1906. [1

EYES  RIGHT!

N. LAZARUS, OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,
3, PEDDER STREET, HONGKONG.

WILL test your eyes free of charge, and if they are wrong will put them right.

Lenses Ground. All kinds of Repairs. Spectacles for all requirements.
Ask, or write, for Illustrated Booklet on "Defective Sight"—free.

LONDON, 21, John Street, Bedford Row, W.C. CALCUTTA, 59, Bentinck Street. SHANGHAI, 566, Nanking Road.

Hongkong, 27th November, 1905. [48

Hotels.

VICTORIA HOTEL,
SHAMEEN, CANTON,
ON THE BRITISH CONCESSION.

MACAO HOTEL,
MACAO, CHINA,
IN THE CENTRE OF THE PRAIA GRANDE.

BOTH HOTELS UNDER EXPERIENCED EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.

EVERY COMFORT AND CONVENIENCE FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

26 WM FARMER, Proprietor.

Telegraphic Address: 'CONNAUGHT.' **CONNAUGHT HOTEL.** *Telephone,* No. 170.
HONGKONG.

A FIRST-CLASS FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL HOTEL, situated near the BANKS, PRINCIPAL OFFICES and in the MAIN STREET.

Large and Lofty Rooms, Elegantly Furnished.
Hydraulic Elevator.
Hot and Cold Water Baths and Shower Baths.
Flush Water Lavatories.
Excellent Cuisine and Wines.
Under European Management.
Launch Service for Guests.

Hongkong, 16th June, 1905. [27

Intimation.

POWELL'S

LADIES' DEPARTMENTS,
"Alexandra Buildings,"
Des Vœux Road.

NOW SHOWING

TWEED SKIRTS,
CLOTH SKIRTS,
MOIRETTE UNDERSKIRTS.

COATS, CAPES, and **JACKETS.**

SILK **BLOUSES,**
VIYELLA **BLOUSES,**
DELAINE **SHIRTS.**

GOLF JERSEYS,
KID BELTS,
SILK BELTS.

Slate, Tan, Beaver, White and Black
KID AND SUEDE **GLOVES.**

SMART **TRIMMED MILLINERY.**

NEWEST **DRESS FABRICS**
for Morning, Afternoon, and Evening Gowns.

FIRST-CLASS **DRESS-MAKING**

MODERATE CHARGES.
Satisfaction Assured.

Wm. POWELL, Ld.,
HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [42

Entertainment.

THEATRE ROYAL,
CITY HALL.

HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

"THE NEW BOY,"
A Farcical Play in 3 Acts,
By ARTHUR LAW,
will be produced on
FRIDAY, 12th January, 1906.
SATURDAY, 13th " "
MONDAY, 15th " "

Prices ... ... $3, $2 and $1.
Sailors and Soldiers in uniform half-price to Pit Stalls and Pit.
Booking Office at ROBINSON PIANO CO.
Open on and after MONDAY, 8th January, from 10 A.M. to 4.30 P.M. each day.

M. S. NORTHCOTE,
Business Manager.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1906. [84

Insurance.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above Company are prepared to accept First Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSSEN & Co.

Hongkong 28th May, 1895. [58

To Let.

TO LET.

NO. 15, KNUTSFORD TERRACE, KOWLOON.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1905. [74

TO LET.

GODOWN No. 3, NEW PRAYA, Kennedy Town.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 27th June, 1905. [73

TO LET.

A BUILDING at CAUSEWAY BAY, formerly in occupation of the Steam Laundry Co., Ltd.
No. 17, WONG-NEI-CHONG ROAD.
No. 5, CLIFTON GARDENS, Conduit Road.
No. 1, RIPON TERRACE.
FLATS in MORETON TERRACE, facing Polo Ground.
OFFICES in course of erection, CONNAUGHT ROAD (near BLAKE PIER).
GODOWNS: PRAYA EAST.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1905. [72

Hotels.

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.

LADIES' AFTERNOON TEA-ROOMS.
PRIVATE BAR and BILLIARD-ROOMS.
HOT and COLD WATER throughout.
ELECTRICALLY LIGHTED, ELECTRIC FANS (if required).
ELECTRIC PASSENGER ELEVATOR to each floor.
TABLE D'HOTE at separate tables.

For Terms, &c., apply to the—
MANAGER.

Hongkong, 4th December, 1905. [30

OCCIDENTAL HOTEL.

EXCELLENT CUISINE.
MODERATE PRICES.
ELECTRIC FANS
TO ORDER IN
EVERY ROOM.
EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT.
ELGIN ROAD, KOWLOON.

Hongkong, 19th May, 1901. [28

ORIENTAL HOTEL,
MACAO.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL situated in the Centre of Praya Grande with splendid view of the Harbour.

LARGE AND LOFTY ROOMS, Elegantly Furnished.
EXCELLENT CUISINE.
WINES AND SPIRITS of the best quality.
BILLIARD TABLE, the best in the Far East.
EVERY COMFORT FOR RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS.

For Terms, &c., apply to—
THE MANAGER.

Macao, 16th October, 1905. [89

Auction.

(BY ORDER OF THE MORTGAGEES).

PUBLIC AUCTION.

MESSRS. HUGHES AND HOUGH have received instructions to sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION,
ON
MONDAY,
the 15th day of January, 1906, at 3 P.M.,
at their SALES ROOMS,
THE FOLLOWING
VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY,
situate at Victoria, in the Colony of Hongkong, viz.:—

All that PIECE or PARCEL of GROUND, situate at Victoria, aforesaid, and registered in the Land Office as SECTION A of MARINE LOT No. 10A, containing by superficial measurement 2,800 square feet and having a frontage to Queen's Road Central of 30 feet and 6 inches or thereabouts and a depth of 80 feet. On this Section stands the very valuable house and premises, known as No. 35, Queen's Road Central. All the said premises are held for the residue of a term of 984 years granted by a Crown Lease of Marine Lot No. 10A and which Lease in dated 16th April, 1859.

For further particulars and conditions of sale, apply to—
JOHNSON, STOKES & MASTER,
Solicitors for the Mortgagees,
or to
Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,
Government Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1905. [1304—F

Notice of Firm.

CHINA AND COAST PORTS STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

I HAVE, This Day, been appointed, as MANAGER.

GEO. KEEBLE.

3, MacDonnell Road.
Hongkong, 12th December, 1905. [1234—E

For Sale.

FOR SALE.

REMINGTON TYPEWRITERS; new and in good condition.
BARGAIN PRICES,
From $135 to $250.

Apply to—
H. RUTTONJEE,
No. 5, D'Aguilar Street.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [64

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

PORTLAND CEMENT.

In Casks of 375 lbs. net **$4.75** per Cask ex Factory.

In Bags of 250 lbs. net **$2.80** per Bag ex Factory.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1905. [57

THE FAMOUS
MAB DWARF RAZOR,
A SHARP LITTLE SHAVER

WEIGHT LESS THAN ¾ OUNCES.

THIS DWARF RAZOR has superseded the old fashioned clumsy Razor and by its use Shaving becomes a pleasure. It is manufactured in Sheffield, England, from a special amalgam of steel which makes imitation impossible, and in consequence it enjoys the largest sale of any Razor in the World. Thousands of Testimonials testify that the little "MAB" is the finest shaving implement ever produced.

Will be mailed to any address on receipt of the price ($2), post free.

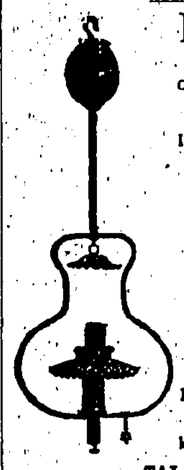
To be obtained from THE MUTUAL STORES, WATKINS, LIMITED, and all first-class stores in the Colony.

Sole Agents for Far East, HOWARD & Co., 29, Des Vœux Road, Central, Hongkong. Agents wanted in every port.

For particulars and terms, apply to—
HOWARD & Co.

Hongkong, 24th November, 1904. [66

FOR SALE.



INCANDESCENT GASOLINE LAMPS
OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS,
from the best makers,

INCANDESCENT MANTLES,
CHIMNEYS,
GLOBES,
SHADES, &c.,
for
GASOLINE AND GAS LAMPS
at the most moderate prices.

Lamps fixed up for Buyers free of charge.

Naphtha of the best kind kept in stock.

TAI KWONG CO.,
56, Lyndhurst Terrace.

Hongkong, 2nd May, 1904. [59

NOTICE.

THE Public are hereby informed that no change has been made in the Rates of Subscription to the *Hongkong Telegraph* and they are warned against paying more than TEN CENTS (10 cts.) per Single Copy.

THE MANAGER,
Hongkong Telegraph Co., Ltd.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1905.

AH, FRIEND OF ME.

BY GRACE GOODALE.

Ah, friend of me, I know not why I turn
To you in every stress of toil or pain.
I only know that somehow I can gain
Quiet and courage from those sombre eyes,
That in your silent presence I can learn
To meet, less shaken, my allotted fate,
More steadily to lift and bear the weight
That hopelessly upon my spirit lies.

Ah, friend of me, I wish that I may give
Some half return, some hint of joy or peace!
But who shall reach your need, who make to cease
The deep world-pain that claimed you from your birth,
Who break the solitude in which you live?
Not mine such power; a helpless human touch
Of loving faith—I can not count it much—
Yet take it, friend, and judge you of its worth.

—*Reader* (October).

COMMERCIAL.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Reviewing the share business for the week, Messrs. Benjamin, Kelly & Potts, in their report of 5th inst., write:—There has been a distinctly healthier tone in our market during the week and a larger business has resulted. The demand for stocks, which has been fairly general, has had the effect of raising prices in several instances and, what is always a good sign, Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have improved to a considerable extent.

A table of comparative value of stocks on 31st December for the past ten years is appended on the fourth page of this circular, which, we think, will be of interest to our readers.

At the extraordinary general meeting of shareholders in the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited, held yesterday, the special resolution referred to in our previous circular was submitted and confirmed, and the Society is now in a position to deal with the shares in the China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited, in accordance with the terms of the Society's offer.

Banks.—A persistent demand for shares in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank has created a regular boom in the stock which has been negotiated at advancing rates up to $895. The latest quotation in London is £73. Nationals are still in request at $38.

Marine Insurances.—Cantons are offering at the further reduced rate of $315. China Traders have continued to improve and after sales at various prices are now wanted at $90. Unions have been done at $717½ and close in demand at $720. North Chinas have advanced to Tls. 95 while Yangtszes remain quiet at $170.

Fire Insurances.—China Fires have gone up to $90 and are inquired for. Hongkong Fires are steady at $330.

Shipping.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboats have changed hands at $25 and $25½ at which latter rate more shares can be placed. Indo-Chinas have hardened and close at $92; in Shanghai, shares are in request at Tls. 65½. China and Manilas have been sold at $20. Douglas Steamships have risen and are wanted at $36½. Star Ferries can be obtained at $32 (old) and $23 (new). Shell Transports are quoted at 22s. 6d. ex the dividend of 1s. paid in London on the 1st instant.

Refineries.—China Sugars have improved to $205. Luzons have been placed at $25.

Mining.—Chinese Engineerings have again changed hands at Tls. 9. Raubs have been disposed of at $4 and now close at $4½. Private advices from Singapore state that during the month of December, 3,696 tons of stone were crushed for a yield of 591 ounces of smelted gold.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are quiet at $164. Farnhams were booked at Tls. 126 and have since declined to Tls. 124, at which rate shares are obtainable. Kowloon Wharfs are inquired for at $108. Hongkew Wharfs have experienced a further substantial rise and close in demand at Tls. 225.

Lands, Hotels and Buildings.—Hongkong Lands have been dealt in at $125. Shanghai Lands have changed ownership at Tls. 120 West Points have found buyers at $55. Hongkong Hotels have ruled steady with sales at $150. Humphreys Estates have advanced to $13.

Cotton Mills.—Quotations are practically unaltered.

Miscellaneous.—Green Island Cements continue in strong demand at $18½, but holders will not part except at higher prices. A. S. Watsons have been fixed at $13. Electrics remain firm with buyers at $15 for the old and at $14½ for the new shares. Bell's Asbestos have changed hands at $7½. Dairy Farms can be placed at $15½ and William Powells are wanted at $10½. Langkats are firmer and have inquiries at Tls. 210.

TO-DAY'S EXCHANGE.

Selling.	
London—Bank T.T.	2 0 9/16
Do. demand	2 0
Do. 4 months' sight	2 0 15/16
France—Bank T.T.	2 57
America—Bank T.T.	49½
Germany—Bank T.T.	2.09
India T.T.	152½
Do. demand	152½
Shanghai—Bank T.T.	71½ nom.
Singapore T.T.	10% prem. nom.
Japan—Bank T.T.	99½
Java—Bank T.T.	123
Buying.	
4 months' sight L/C.	2/1 1/16
6 months' sight L/C.	2/1 3/16
30 days' sight San Francisco & New York	50½
4 months' sight do.	51½
30 days' sight Sydney and Melbourne	2/1 5/16
4 months' sight France	2.62
6 months' sight "	2.63½
4 months' sight Germany	2.14½
Bar Silver	29 13/16
Bank of England rate	4 %
Sovereign	9.88

Intimations.

THE BRIGHT SIDE

of life. It is a feeling common to the majority of us that we do not get quite the amount of happiness we are entitled to. Among the countless things which tend to make us more or less miserable ill health takes first place. Hannah More said that sin was generally to be attributed to biliousness. No doubt a crippled liver with the resulting impure blood, is the cause of more mental gloom than any other single thing. And who can reckon up the fearful aggregate of pain, loss and fear arising from the many ailments and diseases which are familiar to mankind; like a vast cloud it hangs over a multitude no one can number. You can see these people everywhere. For them life can scarcely be said to have any "bright side" at all. Hence the eagerness with which they search for relief and cure. Remedies like

WAMPOLE'S PREPARATION

have not attained their high position in the confidence of the people by bald assertions and boasting advertisements. They are obliged to win it by doing actually what is claimed for them. That this remedy deserves its reputation is conceded. It is palatable as honey and contains the nutritive and curative properties of Pure Cod Liver Oil, combined with the Compound Syrup of Hypophosphites and the Extracts of Malt and Wild Cherry. Nothing has such a record of success in Scrofula, Anemia, Throat and Lung Troubles, and emaciating complaints and disorders, that tend to undermine the foundations of strength and vigour. Its use helps to show life's brighter side. Dr. H. L. Reddy, B. A., M. D., L. R. C. S., Edinburg,—L. R. C. P., London,—Physician Woman's Hospital—Professor University of Bishops College, Canada, says: "I have much pleasure in stating that I have used it in cases of debility and have found it to be a very valuable remedy as well as pleasing to take." You can take it with the assurance of getting well. It never disappoints. Sold by all chemists.

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CHINA PROVIDENT LOAN AND MORTGAGE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE NINTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Offices of the Company, St. George's Building, No. 6, Connaught Road, on SATURDAY, 20th January, 1906, at 11 A.M., for the purpose of receiving a Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1905, declaring a Dividend and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from WEDNESDAY, the 17th January, until SATURDAY, the 20th January, 1906, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1906. [95

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

WE have this day REMOVED our Office to KING'S BUILDINGS (3rd Floor, West Side).

MACDONALD & CO.

Hongkong, 2nd January, 1906. [77

A. CHAZALON & CO.

6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

NOTED for their WINES, SPIRITS and PROVISIONS of which they have always a large assortment in stock.

The oldest established EUROPEAN BAKERS in the Colony.

Hongkong, 30th September, 1905. [61

THE HONGKONG STUDIO,
HIGHER CLASS PHOTOGRAPHER,
41 & 43, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,
TOP FLOOR.

PORTRAITS, GROUPS and ENLARGING and COPYING in all Sizes.

LARGE SELECTION OF VIEWS ALWAYS ON HAND.

PRICE VERY MODERATE.

Hongkong, 15th September, 1903 [65

SELF CURE NO FICTION! MARVEL UPON MARVEL! NO SUFFERER NEED NOW DESPAIR,

but without running a doctor's bill or falling into the deep ditch of quackery, may safely, speedily and economically cure himself without the knowledge of a second party. By the introduction of

THE NEW FRENCH REMEDY
THERAPION,

a complete revolution has been wrought in this department of medical science, whilst thousands have been restored to health and happiness who for years previously had been merely dragging out a miserable existence.

THERAPION No. 1—A Sovereign Remedy for discharges from the urinary organs, superseding injections, the use of which does irreparable harm by laying the foundation of stricture and other serious diseases.

THERAPION No. 2—A Sovereign Remedy for primary and secondary skin eruptions, ulcerations, pains and swellings of the joints, and all those complaints which mercury and sarsaparilla are popularly but erroneously supposed to cure. This preparation purifies the whole system through the blood and thoroughly eliminates all poisonous matter from the body.

THERAPION No. 3—A Sovereign Remedy for debility, nervousness, impaired vitality, sleeplessness, distaste and incapacity for business or pleasure, love of solitude, blushing, indigestion; pains in the back and head, and all those disorders resulting from early error and excess which the faculty so persistently ignore, because so impotent to cure or even relieve.

THERAPION is sold by principal Chemists throughout the world. Price in England 2/9 & 4/6. In ordering, state which of the three numbers required, and observe that the word 'THERAPION' appears on British Government Stamp (in white letters on a red ground) affixed to every package by order of His Majesty's Hon. Commissioners, and without which it is a forgery.

Sold by A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd., Hongkong, China and Manila. [Q

Intimations.

THE POPULAR
SCOTCH
IS
"BLACK & WHITE"

JAMES BUCHANAN & CO.
SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS.
By Appointment to
H.M. THE KING
and
H.R.H. the PRINCE of WALES

Supplied at all the LEADING CLUBS and HOTELS, and to be obtained from the principal Stores. [52

TUBORG BEER.

A FIRST Class PILSENER BEER guaranteed free from Salicylic Acid, and any other Chemicals.

PRICE $10.50 per case of 48 bottles (quarts) or 6 doz. pints.

Special Prices for Quantities.

Sole Agents:—
SIEMSSEN & CO.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1903. [62

THE WINE GROWERS SUPPLY CO.

BARRETTO & Co.,
General Agents, Hongkong.

CLARETS.

St. George	$4.00	Per Dozen Quarts.
Cru-Wynbron	4.50	" "
Cotes	5.00	" "
Montferrand	5.50	" "
Medoc	6.00	" "
St. Emilion	6.00	" "
St. Estephe	6.50	" "
St. Julien	7.50	" "
St. Estephe Superior	9.00	" "
Chateau Margaux	9.00	" "
Chateau Leoville	9.00	" "
Chateau Lafite	10.00	" "
Chateau Larose	10.50	" "

BARRETTO & Co.,
Agents,
Nos. 22 & 24, Bank Buildings,
Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 29th May, 1905. [50

NOTICE.

All communications intended for publication in "The HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" should be addressed to The Editor, 1, Ice House Road, and should be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address.

Ordinary business communications should be addressed to The Manager.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MS., nor to return any Contribution.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES (IN ADVANCE)

DAILY—$30 per annum.

WEEKLY—$18 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per mensem, proportional. The daily issue is delivered free when the address is accessible to messenger. On copies sent by post an additional $1.50 per quarter is charged for postage. The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is 50 cents per quarter.

Single Copies—Daily, ten cents; Weekly, twenty-five cents.

DEATH.

On the 5th instant, at the Government Civil Hospital, HERBERT ROSE, late of Messrs. Samuel, Samuel & Co., Taipeh. Deeply regretted. [96

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1906.

AMERICA ON CHINA.

Numerous subjects are dealt with by the Executive Committee of the American Association of China, but, probably, the two most important questions considered are those which relate to American railway enterprise in China and the boycott. It is recognised that the completion of the Peking-Hankow railway is a "notable event," and the construction of the first section of the Shanghai-Nanking railway is also allowed to be a step in advance; but little is said about the Canton-Kowloon line, or the Canton-Hankow railway, which have bulked so large in the minds of people in Hongkong. All we are told regarding the latter line is that "this syndicate, known as the American-China Development Co., released to China all its rights, for a suitable consideration, and the line is now proposed to be built under Chinese auspices, with the aid of a loan, contracted largely through British channels. Thus a scheme, much vaunted as an American enterprise in China, has disappeared from the field." Of course, this bald statement does not by any means express the full or actual facts, but it gives in a condensed form the real position. Another paragraph again refers to the anxiety of the Chinese to retain the control of the Chinese railway system within their own jurisdiction. It is rather to be regretted that no comments have been made on this subject, for while we have had a great amount of German and Belgian criticism on the point, American as well as British remarks have been mostly confined to desultory references to the difficulties imposed by the Chinese in the way of railway development. Nobody knows better than the people of Hongkong how earnestly the construction of the Canton-Hankow railway has interested those involved in Chinese affairs, how many men have been living in hopes that the construction would be carried out by an American or Anglo-American syndicate; but not a word of this appears in the report of an Association which should be particularly well-informed on the point. Nothing is said about the Canton-Kowloon line, although the report is supposed to reach the 29th of December. In a curiously-worded paragraph, reference is made to the boycott. The report says: "The boycott movement has developed since the date of our first cable message to an extent which fully justified the Committee's solicitude. It has become complicated with other movements so as to be no longer a matter for settlement merely between America and China." As a matter of fact there has been no real complication, at least in so far as South China is concerned, unless, of course, the Lien-chau tragedy be deemed a result of the movement. We entirely agree with the sentiment that: "The situation is one which requires the utmost wisdom, prudence, and self-restraint, and particularly so on the part of the Government of China." But all this is simply a matter for America and no other country is concerned, unless very indirectly, in the hostility manifested towards the New World, its people and its products. A general statement is made with regard to the Anglo-Japanese alliance and a definite and pleasing conclusion arrived at. The integrity of China is assured, we are told, and "The welding of the former limited alliance of England and Japan into a positive alliance for defence and for the maintenance of the *status quo* in Eastern and Southern Asia seems to afford to China and the Far East an opportunity of peaceful development, such as has not been known since China was opened to the world." Reference is made in a perfunctory way to the questions of trade-marks registration, currency reform, the Chinese Commission and various other topics. On the whole the report is optimistic in character, and without that bias which too often enters into the conception of the compilers of similar records.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

GOVERNMENT contemplates the extension of Conduit Road east and west.

THE Governor has appointed Mr. C. H. Ross to be a lieutenant in the Hongkong Volunteer Corps with effect from the 3rd inst.

THE Governor has been pleased to grant local rank of captain to Lieutenant C. [illegible] Coleman, 5th Battalion Lancashire Fusiliers, from the 29th ult.

MR. Denman Fuller, F.R.C.O., L.R.A.M., gave another organ recital in S. John's Cathedral last evening, when a large congregation was given an hour's musical treat.

IT is announced that Mr. Fletcher, F. S. Brockman will deliver a lecture in the Y.M.C.A. Institute, European Department, at 3.30 p.m. to-morrow. The subject is "The City of the future."

A REMARKABLE scientific paper on earth-eating in India, by Mr. David Hooper and Dr. H. Mann, is published which shows that this curious practice is not yet extinct, clay being still sold in the bazaars in Calcutta for eating purposes.

THIS morning Inspector Langley charged 15 boatmen and women, before Mr. F. A. Hazeland, at the Magistracy, for various breaches of the Harbour rules,—anchoring in prohibited localities, not having valid licences, etc. They were each fined $5 or 14 days', and cautioned.

TWO Japanese were placed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland this morning by Inspector Collett, charged with being vagrants. It appeared that they had worked their passages from Japan in the *Nippon Maru*, and landed here without any money, or visible means of subsistence. They were remanded to the House of Detention.

PROGRAMME of music to be performed by the Band of the 119th Infantry on the New Parade Ground, on Monday next, from 4 to 5.30 p.m.:—

March ....."Sons of the Brave"....Bidgood
Overture ....."Flute Barsche"....Suppé
Waltz ....."Estudiantina"....Waldteufel
Selection....."The Orchid"....Monckton
Dance ....."The Japanese Dance"....Thomas
Two-Step ....."Mumbling Moss"....Thurban
God save the King.

At noon yesterday Inspector Collett raided No. 414 Des Voeux Road, and there arrested sixteen men indulging in a game of pai-kau. The men were all arrested, and the paraphernalia, cards, money, etc., were seized. This morning they were placed before Mr. F. A. Hazeland. The leader was sentenced to pay a fine of $50 or two months' hard labour, and the rest $2 or seven days' hard labour.

THE current number of the *Hongkong Government Gazette* is issued in a handier form. From the former Crown folio, the size is reduced to one of foolscap folio, and is got up after the style of the Straits *Gazette*. It is printed in clear, legible type. The official publication from a printer's point of view is issued faultlessly, and does credit to the old-established firm of publishers, Messrs. Noronha & Co.

THE Australian steamer *Taiyuan*, which is at present in the harbour has on board, in charge of Mr. Geo. Turton, thirteen Australian mares consigned to the Yokohama Race Club. These animals are fine specimens of the Australian breed. Some of them are almost thoroughbreds while the others are three-quarter bred. It might be interesting to know that the Japanese Government requires the Yokohama Race Club to import all mares, so that they can be used for stud purposes after their racing career is over.

FOLLOWING are the returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1905, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks.

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, ...	$3,418,617	$2,300,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, ...	15,458,66	10,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited, ...	63,410	40,000
Total, ...	$18,940,293	$12,340,000

DURING yesterday afternoon His Excellency, Major-General Villiers Hatton, and Mrs. Villiers Hatton, were "at home" at Headquarters House, to some 150 children of the Colony, who had been invited to a party in the extensive grounds adjoining the House, and there the small guests enjoyed all sorts of games and other forms of entertainment. His Excellency and Mrs. Villiers Hatton, very capably assisted by Captain E. S. Ward, A.D.C., were most untiring in their efforts to make the time pleasant and enjoyable for the little ones, who did not leave the "pleasure ground" empty-handed, for each child carried away a very nice toy, just suitable to his or her age and sex, after a delightful afternoon.

DR. Fenwick, of Accrington—who is said to have discovered a cure for cancer—told a *Morning Leader* representative that he has been engaged in the research for nine years. The nature of the remedy is very simple, and he claims that by it he has already absolutely cured nine cases. On one patient almost every kind of known treatment had been tried unavailingly, and the growth threatened to destroy the patient's eyes. Dr. Fenwick applied his specific, and not only did the cancer disappear, but there is now a new growth of healthy skin. That patient is now at the Manchester Royal Infirmary under observation. Dr. Fenwick has worked on the theory of the Imperial Cancer Research Committee that cancer is due to the proliferation of cancer cells, and that to stop the proliferation would cure the disease.

THE RACES.

MORNING GALLOPS AT THE COURSE.

Saturday, 6th January.

Once against the Race-course is assuming that animated not to say festive appearance which usually distinguishes it immediately prior to the Race meeting. Old sports are turning out in full force, and, what is better, ladies are gracing the preliminary canters.

Cold is no word for the raw atmosphere which exists at the Race-course of a morning. The raw winds that blow across the course create a healthy appetite for the matutinal cup of coffee. It takes some courage to rise almost before daybreak, dress in comparative darkness, and forget that there is such a thing as a downy bed. But there is the thought of the coffee counter at the course, and that makes matters easier.

Of course, the real "sport" would get out of bed if a blizzard were blowing and Hongkong had been transported to the Arctic Circle, rather than miss the training of the animals. That is what makes these reunions so delightful. A man is never half so approachable as when he turns up in the morning, clad in negligé fashion and free from business worries. See him at the coffee table, and then see him later in the day at his office intent on business. There is no resemblance. And the best acquaintances are formed on the race track. There is a flavour in that early cup of steaming coffee that is never found elsewhere.

Our popular and genial friend, Mr. J. Y. V. Vernon, who is better known by his racing *soubriquet* of "The President," turned up at the course this morning. He was given a sportsman's welcome, and has promised that he will attend regularly.

The ladies deserve the highest encomiums for appearing at the early morning canters. Most of them were the wives of owners, and their presence gave a distinct charm to the proceedings. A keen sportswoman like a keen sportsman is always to be admired, and we all had the greatest pleasure in their attendance.

Training is just commencing to be in earnest. It is not long now till the meeting takes place, and there is a good deal of hard work to be done to bring the ponies up to the mark. To-day, the measuring of the ponies was begun. Judging from appearances, the meeting next month should prove as interesting, and perhaps more so, than a good many of its predecessors. A few steady gallops were made, and the times are on the whole satisfactory, especially at this early stage of the training.

Many expressions of sincere regret were evoked by the news of the sudden and sad death of Mr. Rose, who was the owner of two subs. of a very promising character.

That staunch supporter of the turf, Mr. E. W. Mitchell, has not yet made his appearance on the course, owing to an unfortunate accident to his hand. We all hope that he will not remain long absent from the morning assembly.

Some of the times in the gallops this morning were worth noticing, and should prove of interest to those who care for sport. They are appended:

Hongkong Bank's black-and-chestnut sub., ¾ m., 35, 1.11, 1.47.

Dorabjee's blk. and Meier's Handsome, 1 m., 36, 1.15, 1.54 2/5, 2.30.

Hough's and Shewan's subs., ½ mile, 38, 1.10.

H. Humphreys's sub., ½ mile, 37 3/5, 1.12.

H.E. The Governor's white and dun, ¾ m., 37, 1.16, 1.51.

Ellis Kadoorie's, 1 m., 40, 1.20, 2.00, 2.35.

Moxon's sub., ¾ m., 1.42.

Mody's Black Cherry, 1 m., 1st. qr. (?), joined by Dr. Jordan's sub., ¾ m., 37 2/5, 1.15, 1.48 3/5.

Mr. Griffin's sub. and Banzai, ¾ m., 39, 1.18, 1.56 2/5.

Mikosch and Gresson's sub., 1 m., 35, 1.12, 1.50, 2.25 2/5.

Alarm and Highland Star (sub.), 1½ m., steady canter, 40, 1.38, 2.18 2/5, 3.00, 3.44, 4.18 2/5.

EARLY BIRD.

The ponies are greatly improving, and the style of some while on the "go" is like that of small horses, notably the donkey-tailed pony who moves well, and if he maintains his present form will probably shake things up on race day.

Alarm and Mr. Macdonald's white-star sub. went three-quarters of a mile. They moved along easily and in good style. The last quarter was covered in 33 seconds.

Mr. Newall's pony went a mile with The Schoolmaster (Grafton). They covered that distance in 2 min. 30 sec., last quarter 34 sec.

Mikosch and Mr. Forrest's sub rattled off a mile in 2 min. 25 sec., last quarter 34 sec.

Mr. Cruickshank's chestnut griffin went the same distance and did it in 2 min. 38½ sec., his last quarter being 37 sec.

The well-known pony Ci-Canny was also put to the test for three-quarters of a mile which was covered in 2 min. 7 sec., last quarter 36 sec.

The next on the scene was Mr. Ellis Kadoorie's sub. A one-and-a-quarter mile distance was his test. His last three-quarters was done in 1 min. 52 sec., which it seems did not entirely please his owner.

Mr. H. Humphreys's rat tail pony was put to half a mile which was done in 1 min 12 sec., while Mr. Moxon's two griffins covered three-quarters of a mile in 1 min. 43½ sec.

Some minutes later a few ponies were measured by Mr. White. Following are the measurements:—

Mr. Dorabjee's Andromeda (No. 12) made quite a fuss when approached, and a blanket was thrown over his head. His height is 13h. 2½in.

Mr. Babington's grey (No. 1) 12h. 3¾in.

Mr. Moxon's grey (No. 3) 12h. 3in.

Mr. Owen's Greyton 13h. ¾in.

Mr. Craig's griffin 12h. 3½in.

Mr. Jupp's (No. 6) 13h.

THE RIDING BOY.

"ALAS, THOSE CHIMES!"

ANOTHER CLOCK TOWER QUESTION.

A correspondent writes:—Much has been written of the Hongkong Clock Tower, and it is apparently useless to expect that the Government will take any steps for any considerable time, if ever, to remove that obsession from its present site. But might an appeal be made on behalf of hotel residents and those living on the lower levels to obtain a cessation of those terrible chimes during the night? Of course, I do not want to be unreasonable, and I quite admit that the chimes are necessary during the early part of the evening, if any one is to know the time by this veteran of the public service. One of the clock dials is in darkness and the others are so badly lighted that the inquirer is only lost in doubt when he gazes on their shadowy faces. But who wants the chimes after midnight and before six o'clock in the morning? Not your humble, that is certain. Half the principal hotels in Hongkong are situated in the immediate vicinity of the Clock Tower, and it is a dream to hear how visitors refer to those clanging notes, which ring out just at the most inappropriate moment. When the weary wayfarer has almost reached the arms of Morpheus—to use that classical reference which has so often done duty—out come the chimes at the critical moment, and the whole business of trying to "get off" has to be repeated. Nobody hears the bells of the Clock Tower during the day, but when the streets are clear of shouting rickshaw coolies and fighting chair-carriers they sound like the thunder of a dozen cannon fired off simultaneously. The only people undisturbed by the row are the Indian watchmen. But who could wish the slumbers of these virtuous and reposeful members of the community to be disturbed? Who expects that they would be awakened by anything, especially when doing their honest duty, of guarding a godown? Sometimes they sing in concert, like a Welsh glee club, and then it is a question which is the more hideous, the so-called chimes or the Indian songsters. When Gabriel blows his horn it is to be feared that the Indian watchman will sleep through it all, and awaken to find himself in a world-less world, if the paradox be allowed. But all this does not affect very directly the ordinary resident, who has nerves, from being affected by the clamour of the bells and the clatter of their most unmusical cadences. Their existence might be pardoned in the day time, but at night, and particularly after midnight, they are an absolute nuisance, neither called-for nor pardonable. If there is a member of the *genus homo* who appreciates the wakeful concatenation of noise then he must be a rarity, to be labelled for exhibition at the City Museum, which is all too poor in such objects as attract the travelled visitor. The bells, in fine, when rung in the stillness of the night are intolerable; they are of little use at the best of times, none whatever when all honest people should be sound asleep.

CROWN LAND SALES.

LOT ON BOWEN ROAD.

A sale will take place at the Public Works Department on the 22nd inst., at 3 p.m., of one lot of Crown land adjoining I. L. 1711, on Bowen Road. The lot contains 5,000 square feet, and will be sold subject to an annual rent of $34. The upset price is $1,250. One of the conditions to be complied with by the purchaser is that a sum of $15,000 must be spent on rateable improvements on the lot, within two years of purchase.

A KOWLOON SITE.

On the 22nd inst., at 3 p.m., the Land Surveyor will offer for sale, by auction at the Public Works Department, K. I. L. 1171, situate on Austin Road and Austin Avenue, Kowloon. It has an area of 19,031 square feet, and the annual Crown rent is $152. The reserve price is $5,710. The amount which is stipulated to be spent on rateable improvements is $10,000.

NEW TERRITORIES.

Land in the New Territories appears to be coming into favour, if judged by the number of applications made to Government for allotments. On Monday next, at 3 p.m., seven lots of from 319 to 360 square feet will be put up to auction at the Ping Shan Police Station. The upset price is only $4 per lot, and the Crown rent attached to each is $1 per annum.

ANOTHER FIRE.

The peace of the neighbourhood of No. 5 Police Station was disturbed, and the slumbers of the inhabitants of that district rudely broken, this morning, at about 3.35 o'clock, when the fire bell rang out the alarm that the fire-fiend was once again running *amok* in their vicinity. The Fire Brigade, under Chief Inspector Baker, lost no time in repairing to the locality indicated, when they found that a fire had broken out in the Kwong Man Foo, Chinese and Japanese store, at No. 7, Wing Sing Street, of which Kwong Pok Shan was the master. The fire fighters quickly got to work, and soon had their hoses playing on the flames, which in the stillness of the morning had no chance to spread, and in half an hour had the fire in subjugation. No. 7 Wing Sing Street is a three-storeyed house, and the fire is at present believed to have broken out on the first floor, probably through the bursting of a hanging lamp, which the *jokis* suspend at the foot of the staircase leading to the floors above, as the staircase was the most burned portion of that floor, but the actual origin remains, for the present, a matter of supposition. The upper floors were slightly damaged, chiefly by water, but the ground floor remained intact, save only for the dripping through of the water. The amount of the damage could not be ascertained, though it was not expected to be very considerable, but the place was covered by insurance to the extent of $13,000, divided as follows:

Royal Exchange Insurance Co. $2,000
London and Lancashire " $2,000
Queen " $9,000

Messrs. Butterfield and Swire are the local agents of the two first named Companies, and Messrs. Sassoon and Co. of the third.

SANITARY BOARD ELECTION.

In the current issue of the *Gazette*, it is notified that, by command of His Excellency the Governor, and pursuant to section 8 of The Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903 (No. 1 of 1903) as amended by section 3 of The Public Health and Buildings Amendment Ordinance, 1903, (No. 23 of 1903), an election by the rate-payers of two members to the Sanitary Board will take place at the City Hall on Monday, the 22nd of January, commencing at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

The following persons will be entitled to vote at the election, that is to say:—

(*a.*) Rate-payers who are included in the special and common jury lists for the year 1905.

(*b.*) Rate-payers who are exempted from serving on juries on account of their professional avocations.

The election will be conducted in accordance with the rules contained in schedule C to the above named Ordinance.

Voting will commence immediately after the nomination and continue until 6 p.m., when the ballot-box will be closed.

No rate-payer will be allowed to vote unless he produces to the undersigned the receipt for the rates paid by him for the month of December, 1905.

ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL.

On the naval football ground at Happy Valley yesterday afternoon a match was played between H.M.S. *Hecla* and H.M.S. *Alacrity*. In the first half both teams played a very even game and were attacking alternately. In the second half the *Hecla* moved rapidly, and soon netted the first goal which the *Alacrity* did not lose time to equalise. But the *Hecla* had the best of the game, and another goal was added to the score. Final: *Hecla* 2; *Alacrity* 1.

In the second round for the Soldiers Football Club Challenge Shield the R. G. A. played H.M.S. *Diadem*, on the Military Football ground yesterday afternoon, when a large gathering was in attendance. When the team from the flagship lined out on the field it was noticed that Le Page, their right back, and one or two others were substituted. The leather was soon put in motion and the sailors commenced to press, but it was noticed in a moment when the Artillerymen made one or two breakaways that the *Diadem's* defence was not what it used to be. It must be said that Mr. Bell and his forwards played an excellent game, but the Fates were against them; for when the Artillerymen made their attack Norman, the flagship's goalie, trying to throw out the sphere, must have taken it between the sticks for the referee ruled a goal, although many of the lookers-on questioned his decision. Before half-time the soldiers had scored their second goal to the *Diadem's* nil. [illegible]

The *Diadem* had the best of [illegible] second half, but notwithstanding their [illegible] and the tremendous shot Bell treated [illegible] to, no scoring resulted. Again they tried, and Bell, after a pass from Lawrence, sent the ball past Patterson. It was a splendid game, and the R.G.A.'s goalkeeper deserves great credit for the work he did in goal. Result: R.G.A., 2; *Diadem*, 1.

INSURANCE AND MURDER.

REMARKABLE PLOT.

THREE SENTENCES OF DEATH.

A despatch from Chihuahua, Mexico, announces that three Americans, Hurbert, Mitchell and Harle, are to be shot for murder. This sentence marks the end of an extraordinary conspiracy to cheat the New York Life Insurance Company, and the end of a trial lasting three years. Hurlbert and Mitchell were two worthless attorneys who, for a small consideration, obtained a "divorce for anyone." Their divorce mill, as it was called, had many clients, but in life insurance swindling they saw a better opening. With the help of Dr. Harle they poisoned with strychnine two Americans whom they had caused to be insured, and collected £5,000 on the policies. Thus encouraged, they made a specialty of plundering from the insurance companies, and prospered exceedingly until the arrival in Dallas, Texas, of a detective named Gray, who posed as a timber merchant. Gray was a trap set by the insurance officials to catch the miscreants. He secured the confidence of the men, and was told of their plans for swindling. In one instance a broken-down man, near death, John Evans, was imported. Mitchell posed as Evans, and two doctors pronounced him a good risk. This was their favourite method of swindling. When Evans died the gang collected the money. Their depredations led ultimately to their arrest for poisoning, and the trio, having exhausted all the appeal courts in Mexico, are now doomed to die.

When arrested Mitchell threw himself into a cataleptic state. People believed him to be shamming, but the most powerful ammonia held at his nostrils had no effect. Pins and needles were driven into various parts of the body, and remained unnoticed. For days and weeks he lay apparently dead, and when put into a tank of water still showed no evidence of life. At last whisky was introduced into the man's nourishment, and the effect of the stimulant upon a stomach practically empty made him drunk. In a few minutes he commenced staggering about his cell, cursing the law, and vowing vengeance. Medical specialists believed that Mitchell threw himself into a sort of hypnotic state which baffled scientists for a long time.

SHIPPING AND MAILS.

MAILS DUE.

German (*Prinz Waldemar*) 7th inst.
Indian (*Kutsang*) 9th inst.
American (*Doric*) 10th inst.
French (*Caledonien*) 10th inst.
Canadian (*Athenian*) 11th inst.
German (*Prinz Sigismund*) 14th inst.
Canadian (*Empress of India*) 17th inst.

The O. S. S. Co. & C. M. S. N. Co.'s s.s. *Antenor* left Singapore on 4th inst., and is due here on 9th inst.

The M. M. Co.'s s.s. *Caledonien*, with the next French mail, will leave Saigon to-day, at 3 p.m., for this port.

The s.s. *Zafiro* left Manila for Hongkong *via* Amoy yesterday, at 5 p.m., and is due here on 9th inst., at daylight.

The C. P. R. Co.'s s.s. *Athenian* arrived at Nagasaki at 8.30 a.m., on 6th inst., and leaves again at 4 p.m., same day, for Shanghai where she is due to arrive at 9 a.m., on 8th inst.

TELEGRAM.

[*Reuter's.*]

The Morocco Conference.

LONDON, 4th January.

There is renewed apprehension on the eve of the Morocco conference. The Spanish and Italian press are most pessimistic; and the latter is remarkable for a distinct note of hostility to Germany. Even the Berlin press, in spite of official assurances, shows uneasiness owing to rumours of German military preparations.

The United States and the Morocco Conference.

Later.

A remarkable semi-official statement has been issued in Washington, to the effect that the United States, in virtue of having wiped out piracy, and of having concluded the first treaty with the Barbary States, has a right, superior to any European State, in deciding critical questions at the Morocco conference.

The American Life Insurance Companies.

Mr. Alexander Orr has been elected President of the New York Life Insurance Co. in succession to Mr. McCall, resigned. Both of the McCurdys have resigned the trusteeship of the New York Mutual Insurance Co.

The Australian Mail Service.

The Royal Mail Co. has entered into an agreement with the Orient Line for the joint working of the Australian Service, which will henceforth be known as the Orient Royal Service.

OSAKA AS A COTTON PORT.

SPINNERS AND THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Writing with reference to the contract for next year between the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Cotton Spinners' Union regarding the carrying of Bombay cotton, the *Jiji Shimpo* remarks that the insertion in the new contract of a clause providing for the landing of raw cotton at Osaka marks the opening of a new era for the Osaka harbour and the proposal will no doubt be received with satisfaction by the people of that city. The contract between the Spinners' Union and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the transportation of raw cotton has been in force since 1893, when the company opened the Bombay service, though freight has been subject to alteration every year according to the condition of the market. Despite the fact that, of about 500,000 bales of Bombay cotton imported every year, 60 to 70 per cent is consumed in Osaka and neighbourhood, the steamers have hitherto stopped at Kobe, whence the goods have had to be taken to Osaka by lighters. This has not only involved larger expenditure and much delay in delivery, but owing to the imperfect accommodation at the Kobe Customs, cartage of goods has often been caused by rain, etc., with consequent loss.

Such being the case, continues the *Jiji*, the spinners approached the shipping company with the proposal that in future the steamers should discharge at Osaka, so that they may escape the loss and inconvenience to which they are subjected under the existing arrangements. Although the new measure means additional expense to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, apart from the possible abolition of the Government subsidy on the Bombay line from next year, the company has agreed to the proposal of the Spinners' Union and the freight has been fixed at 10 rupees per ton. The new arrangement will no doubt prove beneficial to the cotton spinners.

The initial plans of the Osaka harbour improvement scheme have now been completed, continues our Tokyo contemporary, and anchoring, loading, and discharging operations for large ships in the harbour can now be carried on without inconvenience excepting when a strong westerly wind blows during the winter. The advantages of the harbour works were often demonstrated during the war, when ships of 5,000 to 6,000 tons displacement went alongside the pier and troops and supplies were shipped without much difficulty. Beginning with February next the Bombay liners will visit Osaka regularly and land raw cotton and the utility of the port will be more practically demonstrated. The construction of sheds, light railways, and other necessary preparations on shore will of course be completed before long. The *Jiji* concludes:—"We wish to avail ourselves of this opportunity to offer some suggestions to the Osaka people as to the plan of harbour improvement to be pursued in the future. They need not seriously listen to such talk as making Osaka the national port of Japan, but they should endeavour to make Osaka a good port, sufficient to meet all requirements. By its situation Osaka is doubtless destined to become an emporium for Eastern trade, while Kobe will remain the centre of European and American trade. Thus the two ports may maintain positions similar to those of Manchester and Liverpool. What has so far been done by way of harbour improvements at Osaka appears to be sufficient for the demand that will be made during some years to come, and therefore it is advisable that the citizens of Osaka, instead of embarking on further extensive and expensive schemes, should try to turn to good account what they have already accomplished."

The moral for Kobe in all this is to hasten the improvement of the port's landing facilities.—*Japan Chronicle.*

THE WEATHER.

The following report is from Mr. F. G. Figg, First Assistant of the Hongkong Observatory:—

On the 6th at 11.55 a. The barometer is inclined to fall on the China coast.

Pressure remains highest over N. China, and gradients are slight to moderate.

Fresh to strong monsoon may be expected in the Formosa Channel and the N part of the China Sea.

Forecast:—Moderate NE. winds; cloudy, probably some rain.

RAUB AUSTRALIAN GOLD MINING CO.

MONTHLY REPORT.

The following is the General Manager's Report on the Raub Mine for the month ending 2nd December, 1905.

The accompanying sheet of mine measurements and assay results of prospecting work shows a total of 274½' for the period (4 weeks) under review made up of 1' sinking, 72½ driving, and 191' crosscutting, as against a total of 195' for the previous four weeks.

MINES.

Bukit Koman—440 Level, Drive South.—Here 12' has been driven, making the total 87'. The Lode, 37" wide, assays 5 dwt.

440' Level, Drive North.—This end has been extended 18', bringing the total to 71'. The lode is 27" wide, and worth 5 dwt.

There is a general improvement in both ends on this level; the lode showing more quartz, while the average grade is being maintained. A crosscut is being put off from the south drive to connect with the winze from the 340' level; 8 ft. has been crosscut.

240' Level, Drive South.—This has been advanced 13', making a total of 70'. The lode, 28" wide, is worth 6 dwt. On the north end of this leader driving has been started to facilitate stoping; it is estimated that we shall have about 30' to drive before connecting with the work from the other side; 15' has been driven during the month on a lode 36" wide and assaying 6 dwt.

Crosscuting for stope filling.—141' of this has been done.

Stopes.—The following have been in operation:

Above the 340 Level: 2 Lode 110" and worth 4 dwt.

Above the 240 Level: 3 Lode 68" and worth 6 dwt.

Above the 140 Level: 1 Lode 40" and worth 5 dwt.

BUKIT MALACCA.

No. 2 Level, Drive South.—This has been advanced 14½', bringing the total to 214½' south of the shaft. There is no improvement to record.

This end has now passed out of the limits of the ore shoot and has become worthless; driving has in consequence been stopped.

The stope in the back of this level contains a lode, 52" wide and worth 6 dwt.; 193 tons have been sent from here to Koman for treatment.

No. 1 Level, Crosscut West.—This has been extended 22', making a total of 163', and without change.

"STOPE" MINE.

Main Shaft.—This has been sunk 11', making a total depth of 166'. At 160' crosscutting east was commenced, and 20' has been traversed; the ground passed through is hard and most regular in its inclination, which is slightly to the East.

At the shaft the top and bottom station sets have been put in, and other necessary work is now in hand.

From the surface workings 558 tons have been sent to the mill, worth 4 dwt.

PLANT AND MACHINERY.

The Huntington mills at Bukit Malacca have for some time been showing signs of heavy wear, and have necessitated some stoppages for repairs, which accounts for the small tonnage treated.

The new hoist and other machinery are in good working order.

Separate milling returns and Cost Sheet accompany this.

Milling Returns—4 weeks ending 2nd December, 1905.

BUKIT MALACCA.

No. 1 mill ran 21 days	Crushing 1,646 tons surface ore.
" 2 " " 15 "	

Total tons crushed: 1,887, yielding 141 oz. smelted gold = 1.49 dwt. per ton.

Bukit Koman—Stamps working: 40.

Period of work: 28 days, less 0.77 days for repairs and clean-up.

Ore milled: Bukit Koman 2,641 tons
"Stope" 558 "
Total 3,199 tons.

Total amalgam won: 1,677 oz producing 549.312 oz. smelted gold.

Average fineness of total bullion: 910.13

Average value of yield: 3.43 dwt.

" " " tailings 2 dwt.

W. H. MARTIN,
General Manager.

SEVEN YEARS' RESULTS.

The following comparative table of results for the past seven years is compiled by Messrs. Erich Georg & Co.

	Ores crushed.	Gold.
Year 1899	14,065 tons	11,274 oz.
" 1900	19,116	12,641
" 1901	13,180	18,669
" 1902	31,579	11,876
" 1903	42,563	10,315
" 1904	37,554	7,201
" 1905	61,702	8,174

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

PREPARED FOR THE STRUGGLE.

The imminence of the General Election, finds the headquarters of the various political organizations fully prepared to adequately cope with the situation. Recent changes at the Conservative Central Office have, to a certain extent, handicapped the party managers, but it is confidently anticipated that between now and the date of the dissolution any weakness will be remedied, and a vigorous campaign conducted. One of the features of the struggle promises to be a deluge of pictorial posters and electioneering literature. From the Conservative headquarters there will issue a remarkable series of posters and leaflets, and the Liberal Publications Department are not behind in their arrangements to assist candidates in this direction.

The Tariff Reform League and the Free Food League are also prepared to enforce their arguments with numerous effective posters. The attitude of the Tariff Reform League is simply that of assisting candidates pledged to support Mr. Chamberlain's policy. No list of such candidates is kept at the offices in Victoria Street, but wherever the help of the league is sought it will be rendered.

So complete is the general preparedness that in both political camps the belief is expressed that the coming contest will mark the highest point of expert organising that the country has witnessed.—*P. M. G.*

THE FAMINE IN NORTH JAPAN.

Mr. William Lampe, chairman of the Foreign committee of relief, writes, under date the 26th ult., to the *Japan Chronicle* as follows:—

The rice crop of Japan this year is 17 per cent. below that of the average year, and only three-fourths of last year's crop, which was, however, a phenomenal yield. The shortage of 17 per cent. means a loss of eighty-four million yen to the farmers, but if this loss were distributed evenly throughout the length and breadth of the land, few foreigners would know of it except those who are interested in statistical tables. Much more than one-third of this loss is in the three ken Miyagi, Fukushima, and Iwate.

Miyagi Ken, the worst of all, because of the failure of the rice and other crops, has suffered to the extent of eighteen million yen, about ¥20 to every man, woman and child, or more than ¥100 for every family in the ken. Rich people, merchants in the towns, and certain others, will not feel this directly. The middle class of farmers who rely on the rice harvest for the support of their families, must sell or mortgage their land. The lower middle class who farm rented land have no crop and no land to sell. Officials say that this will be one of the hardest classes to help; for these people, accustomed to work in the fields, only ordinary coolie labour can now be found. Many of them, however, have clothing or some articles of household furniture; these must be sold to eke out a living until next summer.

What might be called the lower class is especially large in the north. Financially this is the poorest part of Japan. The soldiers of the Second Division who come from this region especially distinguished themselves in the late war, but whatever may be said of the bravery, sturdiness, and honesty of these people, not many of them are rich in this world's goods. This year when food-stuffs must be brought in from the outside, when they have no money to buy after the food is brought in, and when the farmers have no work for even themselves, the poorest people must receive help from somewhere. In Miyagi Ken more than one-third of all the people, and in the three ken some 700,000 out of a population of 3,000,000 are already on the official lists as paupers (*kyumin*) and unless looked after by village, town, and city offices many of them will soon die of hunger.

As much land was tilled as in other years, the people working hard, but there was too much rain and too little sunshine, and when the crop was harvested it was found that the heads, which looked almost the same as in other years, contained only juice which shrivelled up and did not become grains of rice. This is one reason why it was not known until quite recently that there is a famine in the north.

The policy of the officials is to give no help except where absolutely needed. The tax offices are of course open as always, and, as is right, all who can must pay. Many will suffer inconvenience and many will know by experience what are the pangs of hunger, but somehow or other more than 2,000,000 of the people will be able to get along. But what is to become of the 700,000 *kyumin*? That is as large an army as fought on both sides in any battle of the late war.

The standard of living is already low and the sacrifices made because of the war have made this still lower, but there is an irreducible minimum, the people must have something to eat. No one is to be allowed to actually starve to death. In order that there may be no epidemic among the poor, their food is being carefully examined by official physicians. The straw cakes, acorns, and other unpleasant food are not especially injurious; they satisfy the cravings of hunger and will keep life in the body. A very small quantity of food will suffice to keep a person alive, but life cannot be sustained for many months on the diet of these poor people. And besides, the supply of acorns and other nuts will be exhausted by February.

The Government, national and local, is doing all in its power to provide relief work but as yet there are no plans to care for the sick and the aged. In time of famine in India after the Government has done all it could there is still occasion for private charity. So here in North Japan there is much room for generous giving to help the people in this their time of great need.

THE WILLS OF SUICIDES.

The *Lancet* says:—"Eight months ago a 'bookmaker' committed suicide, and at the inquest the jury returned a verdict to the effect that he had slain himself, whilst he was temporarily insane. By his last will, made shortly before the fatal act, he had left over £2,000 to some lady friends with whom he lodged. In the Probate Division of the High Court, on Nov. 8, his relatives sought to upset this will, contending that he was mentally incapable of making a will at the time alleged, for the verdict indicated that he had not the sound disposing mind which is essential for the execution of such a legal instrument. The President, however, pronounced for the validity of the will. A coroner's jury can only deal with the state of mind of a successful *self* murderer at the time of his death, it has nothing to do with the mental condition of a prisoner whom the coroner commits for murder or for manslaughter. Its opinion as to a suicide's state of mind has, apart from life insurance practice, very little forensic weight attached to it, should subsequent legal proceedings arise in connection with the death. That opinion cannot be given as a proof, but merely as an indication of the facts of the case. Since early in the reign of George I. it has been doubtful whether the finding of an inquest jury that a suicide was lunatic can be received in evidence in a trial of an issue out of Chancery of that fact. Last year it was claimed in vain that death by suicide during temporary insanity was an accident within the terms of an insurance policy. A suicide's last act is allowed to stand, although he be immediately afterwards declared to have been insane."

NOTED BABY FARMER.

A REMARKABLE WOMAN SENT TO GAOL.

A remarkable career is now to undergo a further development. Last month at Cardiff Mr. Justice Lawrence sentenced Henrietta Hunter, described as a housekeeper, to 10 years' penal servitude for the attempted murder of a child at Swansea.

She received the child from another woman, and after tying its bonnet over its mouth, abandoned it in a ditch.

Though she was indicted in the name of Henrietta Hunter, a Bristol detective, who said that her finger prints had been taken by the Metropolitan police, declared that he knew her as Dora Johnstone, a notorious baby farmer.

She had "done time" for obtaining a cheque by false pretences, and also for stealing a piano; but baby farming was her chief pursuit.

GETTING RID OF CHILDREN.

She would—it was stated—get hold of illegitimate children under a false name, and would generally make appointments at railway stations. She would then hand the children over to poor people.

When she appeared at Bristol Police-court on one occasion women turned up with seven children, which she had handed to them to take charge of.

Only the previous night—said the officer—he saw a person to whom she handed a child over two years ago, and beyond a sovereign at the time she had not received a farthing.

During the time that the accused lived at Bristol two young babies were found abandoned in the city.

A FURNITURE DEAL.

In 1904 she lived in one of the best suburbs of Bristol, obtained furniture on the hire system, made the acquaintance of a young man who was about to be married, and sold him the furniture for £110.

While in custody on the charge of stealing a piano, the police discovered that she had been in the habit of advertising in various papers under false names. In this way she got hold of a number of children, which she afterwards handed over to poor women, who did not hear from her again.

Another police officer gave the names of women to whom he alleged prisoner had given babies in Glasgow and Swansea, after pretending to adopt them.

In passing sentence, Justice Lawrence said the prisoner's conduct was extremely astute, clever, and very heartless.

She insisted that she was not the woman referred to by the police; but Inspector Wall said he had no doubt whatever as to her identity.

SAYS SHE IS INNOCENT.

This remarkable woman has communicated to a representative of the "South Wales Echo" the following autobiography:

"I am 38 years of age, and was born at Glasgow. My maiden name was Henrietta Brown. I lived in Glasgow until I was ten years of age, and then went with my parents to Carlisle.

"I had one brother and two sisters, who are still living. I lived with my people till I was 17 years of age at Carlisle, when I went to Newcastle-on-Tyne with an aunt and lived there for six years. I was educated at Kelso High Schools.

"I do a lot of oil painting, and also play the piano and banjo. I have given singing lessons, and also speak French.

HER MARRIAGE ROMANCE.

"When I was 22 years of age, I was married to a Mr. John Thomas Johnstone, of Newcastle, a builder and contractor. My parents were against the marriage, thinking I was marrying someone beneath me, and refused to allow me at home.

"For the first eight months of our married life we lived at Newcastle, and then went to America. We lived in Hamilton, Canada, for about three years, my husband being manager of a cotton factory there.

"We then returned to England to Newcastle, and lived there about four years, and afterwards went to London, where we lived till 1900.

"My husband then joined the City of London Imperial Yeomanry, and went to the South African War. When the campaign ended he joined Baden-Powell's Mounted Police, and I have not heard from him since.

WHEN HER HUSBAND LEFT.

"When my husband went to Africa I took to giving music lessons and teaching painting in London. I did this for about a year, and then went out to Calcutta as a travelling companion with a lady, and stayed with her there about a year, when I got an appointment as sewing maid to the Maharajah of Kuch Behar, and I stayed there about fifteen months.

"I then returned to England, and got a situation as companion housekeeper in Manchester. I stayed with this lady until about eight months ago, and travelled all over Europe with her.

"Eight months ago I went as housekeeper to Mr. Collis, at Meydd-st., Swansea, and was with him up till the time of my arrest. I adopted the name of Hunter about twelve months after my husband went to Africa, and I did this because I have not heard from him.

MYSTERIOUS TWIN SISTER.

"I have a twin sister who is very like me and whose name is Dora Johnson. She is the wife of a sea captain, but has not lived with her husband for years. She has of late lived at Newport (Mon.) and Swansea."—*Morning Leader.*

THE SLEEPING SICKNESS.

THE MYSTERY SOLVED.

The mysterious and fatal "sleeping sickness" or "lethargy" of Central Africa, from which no victim has yet escaped, is now definitely known to be due to a blood parasite, conveyed to the body by the bite of a fly, and finally reaching the brain. The discovery has been made by a British government commission that has been working on the problem since 1902. Its head, Col. D. Bruce, had previously solved the mystery of the tsetse fly's fatal bite, which he proved to owe its dangerous results also to the communication of an organism to the blood of bitten cattle or other animals. Says an editorial writer in "Engineering" (London, October 6), describing the methods and results of Colonel Bruce:

"There were many features suggesting a fly-borne disease. With the assistance of the native authorities, he collected all the insects of the district, carefully keeping those from different localities separate, and studying their habits. A species of Glossina, the "Glossina palpalis," was soon singled out as the most likely carrier of the sleeping sickness, and maps were prepared marking the spots in red or blue at which the fly occurred or did not occur, and other similiar maps, showing the distribution of the sleeping sickness. When superposed, the two maps were found to be in good agreement. Thus it was ascertained that the sleeping sickness is chiefly prevalent in the jungles on the banks of rivers and lakes; the fly does not voluntarily move for more than a few hundred yards from these jungles. Many natives in these districts were found to be suffering from infection by "Trypanosoma gambiense." Flies feeding on those natives infected monkeys on which they were allowed to bite in the course of weeks or months. The length of the period after which the protozoan will make its appearance in the inoculated monkey depends upon the time which has passed since the fly took up the trypanosoma from an infected animal. If more than 48 hours intervened, no infection takes place. The infected monkeys suffered in all respects like man; they fell into the same listless lethargy and became prone to all sorts of diseases. Most of these tsetse flies captured in districts infected with the disease, were proved to be carriers of the disease. There was, thus, no doubt left as to the direct connection of both the "Glossina palpalis" and the "Trypanosoma gambiense" with sleeping sickness.

"The full course of the sickness is not cleared up yet, however. The fly sucks up the protozoan with the blood of the animal it bites. The protozoan passes into the stomach of the fly, and out again through the proboscis together with the saliva. Whether the fly itself suffers, as anopheles, the carrier of malaria, appears to do, is not settled. In the blood of the infected man the protozoan multiplies, but not necessarily to any great extent. The victim hardly feels any pain on being bitten, and for one, two, and even three years no wrong may be suspected; for it is only when the protozoan reaches the cerebro-spinal canal that characteristic symptoms are observed. The blood vessels of the brain then become obstructed, so that the brain is no longer nourished. The lymphatic glands of the neck, particularly, also become affected."

So far, we are told, the disease has proved absolutely fatal, although arsenic promises some chance of relief. More than one hundred thousand people succumbed to the sickness in Uganda from 1901 to 1904, and the majority of the people in the infected districts appear to be doomed. That most of the victims are natives is due to the fact that they expose themselves freely to the fly and refuse to believe its bite dangerous, says the writer.

"It is not to be wondered at that they will not believe in the fatality of flybite which they do not mind at the time, and which is not supposed to act until years afterward. The natives of the shores and numerous islands of of the Victoria Nyanza, which is shallow in those parts, dangle their legs in the warm water, and do not trouble to brush away the fly which settles on their limbs. The white man is more careful, of course. The administrator of the district had all the jungle surrounding his house cut down, and the whole house made mosquito-and fly-proof. That precaution cannot everywhere be applied in its full extent; but it is satisfactory to know that it is effective. What is to become of the poor native, who, even when alive to the danger, is too weak to ward off the flies which are eager to feed upon him, is hard to say. There seems to be no help whatever for him. Isolation would be of no use in these cases unless vigorously applied in the sense that the natives of an infected locality are forbidden to leave their district lest they should feed flies not, so far, infected. Such a quarantine has been persisted in, but only in cases where medical science could reasonably do something for the imprisoned patients. In this instance the doctors are, so far, powerless.

To-day's Advertisements.

Intimations.

Shipping—Steamers.

OCEAN STEAMSHIP CO., LD.
AND
CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAV. CO., LD.

JOINT SERVICES.

FORTNIGHTLY SAILINGS FOR LONDON AND CONTINENT.
MONTHLY SAILINGS FOR LIVERPOOL.

TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING FOR ALL EUROPEAN, NORTH AND SOUTH AMERICAN, WEST AUSTRALIAN, JAVA AND SUMATRA PORTS.

EUROPEAN SERVICE.

OUTWARD.

From	Steamers	Due
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ANTENOR"	9th January.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"SAINT BEDE"	11th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"OOPACK"	23rd "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"NINGCHOW"	24th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ACHILLES"	30th "
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"PELEUS"	6th February.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"ALCINOUS"	13th "

S.S. "Antenor" left Singapore on the 4th inst. p.m., and is due here on the 9th.
The Chartered S.S. "Saint Bede" left Singapore on the 3rd inst., and is due here on the 11th.

HOMEWARD.

For	Steamers	To sail
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"IDOMENEUS"	16th January.
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"PAK LING"	20th "
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"STENTOR"	30th "
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"SAINT BEDE"	13th February.
*GENOA, MARSEILLES & L'POOL	"PATROCLUS"	20th "
AMSTERDAM, LONDON & ANTWERP	"ANTENOR"	27th "

* Taking Cargo for Liverpool at London Rates.

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICE.

OPERATING IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.
AND TAKING CARGO ON THROUGH BILLS OF LADING TO ALL OVERLAND COMMON POINTS IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND CANADA.

EASTWARD.

For	Steamers	To sail
VICTORIA, SEATTLE, TACOMA, and all PACIFIC COAST PORTS, *viâ* NAGASAKI, KOBE and YOKOHAMA	"NINGCHOW"	24th January.
	"YANGTSZE"	24th February.

WESTWARD.

From	Steamers	Due
TACOMA, SEATTLE, VICTORIA and PACIFIC COAST	"PINGSUEY"	25th January.
	"OANFA"	26th February.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1906. [3

CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LIMITED.

For	Steamers	To Sail
MANILA	"TAMING"*	9th January.
YOKOHAMA and KOBE	"TAIYUAN"	9th "
CEBU and ILOILO	"KAIFONG"*	11th "
MANILA, ZAMBOANGA, PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIRNS, TOWNSVILLE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	"CHINGTU"*‡	16th "

* The Attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by these steamers, which are fitted throughout with Electric Light. Unrivalled table. A duly qualified Surgeon is carried.

‡ Taking Cargo and Passengers at through Rates for all New Zealand and other Australian Ports.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
AGENTS.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1906. [9

HONGKONG—MANILA.

Highest Class, newest, fastest and most luxurious Steamers between Hongkong and Manila.—Saloon amidships—Electric Light—Perfect Cuisine—Surgeon and Stewardess carried.—All the most up-to-date arrangements for comfort of Passengers.

CHINA AND MANILA
STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

Steamship.	Tons.	Captain.	For	Sailing Dates.
ZAFIRO	2540	R. Rodger	MANILA	SATURDAY, 13th Jan., at Noon.
RUBI	2540	R. Almond	"	SATURDAY, 20th Jan., at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
GENERAL MANAGERS.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1906 [7

HONGKONG-NEW YORK.

AMERICAN ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

FOR NEW YORK via PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL.
(With Liberty to Call at the Malabar Coast).

Steamship	About

For Freight and further information, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Agents.

Hongkong, 23rd December, 1905. [8

FOR HOTEL COMFORT AND THE BEST BILLIARDS
GO TO THE
KOWLOON HOTEL.
KOWLOON.
Cable Address:—"Chef." J. W. OSBORNE, Proprietor and Manager. [82

Shipping—Steamers.

HONGKONG-MACAO LINE.

S.S. "WING CHAI,"
Captain T. AUSTIN, R.N.R.

THIS Steamer departs from Hongkong on Week Days, at 8 A.M. and on Sundays at 8.30 A.M. Departs from Macao on Week Days at 2.30 P.M. and on Sundays at 5.30 P.M., if tide permits.

FARES:—Week Days, 1st Class, including Cabin and servant, Single $3; Return Ticket, $5; 2nd Class, $1; 3rd Class, 50 cents.

Every Sunday will be an Excursion, at the following rates:—1st and 2nd Class, Single Ticket, $1; Return, $2; 3rd Class, Single, 30 cents, Return, 50 cents; Steerage, 10 cents.

Breakfast, Tiffin and Dinner can be supplied either on Board, or at the Macao Hotel, for returning passengers only, at an extra charge of $2.

On Sundays, passengers desiring to have a Private Cabin which has accommodation for two or more passengers, will be charged $3 extra.

First Class Passengers, who do not care to return on the Excursion Sunday, will be allowed to do so the following day (Monday) on production of the Return Half Ticket. Should the Steamer not run on the Monday, owing to the Boiler cleaning, due notice will be given by the Captain, and the Half Ticket will be available for the following day.

The Steamer is lit throughout by Electricity.

The Steamer's wharf at Hongkong is at the Western end of Wing Lok Street.

SAM WANG Co.

Hongkong, 2nd January, 1906. [17

STEAM TO CANTON.

THE New Twin Screw Steel Steamers

	Tons	Captain
"KWONG CHOW"	1,309	T. R. MEAD.
"KWONG TUNG"	1,238	H. W. WALKER.

Leave Hongkong for Canton at 9 every evening (Saturday excepted).

Leave Canton for Hongkong about 5.30 o'clock every evening (Sunday excepted).

These Fine New Steamers have unexcelled Accommodation for First Class Passengers and are lit throughout by Electricity. Electric Fans in First Class Cabins.

Passage Fare—Single Journey ...$4
Meals ...$1 each.

The Company's Wharf is a short distance West of the Harbour Master's Office.

SHIU ON S.S. CO., LD., and
YUEN ON S.S. CO., LD.,
No. 8, Queen's Road West.

Hongkong, 23rd August, 1905. [18

NORTHERN PACIFIC LINE.
BOSTON STEAMSHIP COMPANY.
BOSTON TOW-BOAT COMPANY.

Connecting at Tacoma with NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA, VIA MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

Steamer.	Tons.	Captain.	Sailing.
Shawmut	9,606	E. V. Roberts	27th Jan.
*Hyades**	3,753	Geo. Wright	—
Tremont	9,606	T. W. Garlick	—
*Lyra**	4,417	G. V. Williams	—

* Cargo only.

CHEAP FARES, EXCELLENT ACCOMMODATION, ATTENDANCE AND CUISINE, ELECTRIC LIGHT, DOCTOR AND STEWARDESS.

The twin-screw s.s. *Shawmut* and *Tremont* are fitted with very superior accommodation for first and second class passengers. The large size of these vessels ensures steadiness at sea. Electric fan in each room.

Barber's shop and steam-laundry. Cargo carried in cold storage.

For further Information, apply to

DODWELL & CO., LIMITED
General Agents.

Queen's Buildings.
Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [12

REGULAR STEAMSHIP SERVICE TO NEW YORK,

VIA PORTS AND SUEZ CANAL,
(With Liberty to Call at Malabar Coast).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

Steamship	About
"ATHOLL"	12th January.
"PATHAN"	23rd January.
"ST. GEORGE"	to follow.

For Freight and further Information, apply to

DODWELL & Co., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd January, 1906.

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION CO., LD.

(PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION).

For	Steamship	On
SHANGHAI	*HANGSANG*†	THURSDAY, 11th Jan., 4 P.M.
MANILA	*LOONGSANG**	FRIDAY, 12th Jan., 4 P.M.
SAMARANG and SOURABAYA	*FAUSANG*	TUESDAY, 16th Jan., 3 P.M.
S'GAPORE, PENANG & CALCUTTA	*KUTSANG**	TUESDAY, 16th Jan., 3 P.M.

† Taking Cargo on through Bills of Lading to Chefoo and Yangtsze Ports.

* These Steamers have superior accommodation for First-class Passengers, and are fitted throughout with Electric Light.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1906. [6

PORTLAND & ASIATIC STEAMSHIP CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG, VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, MOJI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA,
FOR
PORTLAND, OREGON,
OPERATING IN CONNECTION WITH
THE OREGON RAILROAD AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

Steamship	Tons	Captain	To Sail at Daylight on
"NUMANTIA"	4,370	Feldtmann	January 7th, 1906.
"ARABIA"	4,483	Metzenthin	January 31st, "
"ARAGONIA"	5,198	Ernst	—
"NICOMEDIA"	4,370	Wagemann	—

The S.S. "Numantia" arrived at Yokohama on the 1st instant.

Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Points and all Eastern, Canadian and United States Points. For through rates of Freight and further information, communicate with or apply to

[6] S. SILVERSTONE, Acting General Agent.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FOR MARSEILLES, LONDON AND ANTWERP.

THE Steamship

"GLENTURRET,"

Captain R. Webster, will be despatched as above on or about TUESDAY, the 16th January.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

McGREGOR BROS. & GOW,
Agents.

Hongkong, 28th December, 1905. [1293—G

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

FOR MARSEILLES, HAVRE, ANTWERP (DIRECT),
Taking Cargo to LONDON with prompt transhipment at Marseilles,
Calling at MANILA, SINGAPORE, PENANG and COLOMBO.

THE Company's Steamship

"KOUANG-SI,"

Captain Barillon, will be despatched as above, on or about the 6th February, 1906.

This Steamer has Accommodation for Passengers and carries a duly qualified Doctor.

For information as to Passage and Freight, apply to

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent,
Queen's Building.

Hongkong, 26th December, 1905. [1289—K

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE Steamship

"DAKOTAH,"

Captain Ross, will be despatched for the above Port, on TUESDAY, the 16th instant.

For Freight and further particulars, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [1144—F

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE,
(Calling at Timor, Port Darwin and Queensland Ports, and taking through Cargo to Adelaide, New Zealand, Tasmania, &c.)

THE Steamship

"EMPIRE,"

Captain Helms, will be despatched for the above Ports, on WEDNESDAY, the 24th instant, at Noon.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber, which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, etc., throughout the voyage.

This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric Light.

A Stewardess and a duly qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers the steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1906. [79

Shipping—Steamers.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOTS-POSTE FRANCAIS.

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE AND YOKOHAMA.

THE Company's Steamship

"CALEDONIEN,"

Captain ——, will be despatched as above, on or about TUESDAY, the 9th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1906. [11

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Steamship

"ARRATOON APCAR,"

Captain E. Fey, will be despatched for the above Ports, on WEDNESDAY, the 10th instant, at 3 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DAVID SASSOON & Co., LIMITED,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [80

Consignees.

FROM HAMBURG, PORT SAID, COLOMBO, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE H. A. L. Steamship

"RHENANIA,"

Captain Förck, having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before TO-DAY.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 12th January, 1906, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 12th January, 1906, at 3 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 5th January, 1906. [93

FROM HAMBURG, BREMEN, ROTTERDAM, PENANG AND SINGAPORE.

THE H. A. L. Steamship

"ALESIA,"

Captain Lüning, having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for countersignature by the Undersigned and to take immediate delivery of their goods from alongside.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded unless notice to the contrary be given before TO-DAY.

Any Cargo impeding her discharge will be landed into the hazardous and/or extra hazardous Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

All Claims must be presented within ten days of the steamer's arrival here after which date they cannot be recognised.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns and all Goods remaining undelivered after the 6th January, 1906, will be subject to rent.

All broken, chafed and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 6th January, at 10 A.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

HAMBURG-AMERIKA LINIE,
Hongkong Office.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1906. [1305—C

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "FERNANDEZ HERMANOS," FROM MANILA.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are to be taken from alongside.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1906. [88

"INDRA" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK, &c.

THE Company's Steamship

"INDRAMAYO,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that their Goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark, and delivery can be obtained as soon as the goods are landed.

Goods not cleared by the 10th instant, at 4 P.M., will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance will be effected by us in any case whatever.

All damaged packages must be left in the Godowns, and a certificate of the damage obtained from the Godown Company within ten days after the vessel's arrival here, after which no claims will be recognised.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before Noon, TO-DAY.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
Agents.

Hongkong, 3rd January, 1906. [81

NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBTS.

NEITHER the CAPTAIN, the AGENTS, nor the OWNERS will be RESPONSIBLE for any DEBTS contracted by the Officers or the Crews of the following vessel during her stay in Hongkong Harbour:—

CELTIC CHIEF, British ship, Captain John Jones.—Standard Oil Co.

Mails.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
FRENCH MAIL STEAMERS.

STEAM FOR SAIGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA, COLOMBO, INDIA, ADEN, DJIBOUTI, EGYPT, MARSEILLES, LONDON, HAVRE, BORDEAUX, MEDITERRANEAN AND BLACK SEA PORTS.

The S.S. "ERNEST SIMONS,"

Captain Bourdon, will be despatched for MARSEILLES on TUESDAY, the 9th January, at 1 P.M.

This Steamer connects at Colombo with the Australian line s.s. *Nera* bound for Marseilles *via* Bombay and Aden.

Passage tickets and through Bills of Lading issued for above ports.

Cargo also booked for principal places in Europe.

Next sailings will be as follows:—

S.S. *POLYNESIEN*.....23rd January.
S.S. *CALEDONIEN* ..... 6th February.
S.S. *SALAZIE* .....20th February.

G. DE CHAMPEAUX,
Agent.

Hongkong, 27th December, 1905. [11

THE PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

STEAM FOR STRAITS, CEYLON, AUSTRALIA, INDIA, ADEN, EGYPT, MEDITERRANEAN PORTS, PLYMOUTH AND LONDON.

(Through Bills of Lading issued for BATAVIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINENTAL, AMERICAN and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS.)

THE Steamship

"DELTA,"

Captain C. L. Daniel, carrying His Majesty's Mails, will be despatched from this for BOMBAY, on SATURDAY, the 13th January, 1906, at Noon, taking Passengers and Cargo for the above Ports in connection with the Company's S.S. *Himalaya*, 6,898 tons, from Colombo, Passengers' accommodation in which vessel is secured before depature from Hongkong.

Silk and Valuables, all Cargo for France and Tea for London (under arrangement) will be transhipped at Colombo into the Mail steamer proceeding direct to Marseilles and London; other Cargo for London, &c., will be conveyed from Bombay by the R.M.S. *Egypt*, due in London on the 24th February, 1906.

Parcels will be received at this Office until 4 P.M. the day before sailing. The Contents and Value of all Packages are required.

For further Particulars, apply to

E. A. HEWETT,
Superintendent.

Hongkong, 30th December, 1905. [4

Intimations.

A WONDERFUL DISCOVERY.

This is the age of research and experiment, when all nature, so to speak, is ransacked by the scientific for the comfort and happiness of man. Science has indeed made giant strides during the past century, and among the—by no means least important—discoveries in medicine comes that of Theraplon, particulars of which will be found in another column. This preparation is unquestionably one of the most genuine and reliable Patent Medicines ever introduced, and has, we understand, been used in the Continental Hospitals by Ricord, Lostan, Jolert, Velpeau, Maisonneuve, the well-known Chassaignac, and indeed by all those who are regarded as authorities in such matters, including the celebrated Lallemand, and Roux, by whom it was some time since uniformly adopted, and that it is worthy the attention of those who require such a remedy we think there is no doubt. From the time of Aristotle downwards, a potent agent in the removal of these diseases has (like the same philosopher's stone) been the object of search of some hopeful, generous minds; and far beyond the mere power—if such could ever have been discovered—of transmuting the baser metals into gold is surely the discovery of a remedy so potent as to repletish the failing energies of the confirmed *roué* in the one case, and in the other so effectually, speedily and safely to expel from the system without the aid, or even the knowledge, of a second party the poisons of acquired or inherited disease in all their protean forms as to leave no taint or trace behind. Such is The New French Remedy Theraplon, which may certainly rank with, if not take precedence of, many of the discoveries of our day, about which no little ostentation and noise have been made, and the extensive and ever-increasing demand that has been created for this medicine wherever introduced appears to prove that it is destined to cast into oblivion all those questionable remedies that were formerly the sole reliance of medical men. Theraplon may be obtained in England direct from the proprietor, and of the principal Chemists and Merchants throughout the Colonies, India, China, Japan, &c., not even excluding such remote districts as Central Africa, the Fiji Islands, St. Helena, &c.—*Diamond Fields Advertiser* KIMBERLEY.

Sold by A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.,
Hongkong, China and Manila. Q

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORESS of the ITALIAN CONVENT, CAINE ROAD, begs most respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of Hongkong and the Coast Ports, for their kind patronage and support, and desires to state that she will be pleased to receive orders for all kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Cuffs and Collars renewed on old ones.

Ladies and Children's Under-clothing, Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery, Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superioress will also be most grateful for any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES to be made into Books for the Children of the Poor Schools, who are taught by the Sisters.

Hongkong, 22nd April, 1891.

THE "SHELL" TRANSPORT & TRADING CO., LD.

The subjoined statements of accounts were held over, through pressure on our space, from last evening's issue:—

Dr.

	£	s.	d.
To management (covering office rent, salaries and expenses), directors' and auditors' fees	£ 22,150	0	0
To balance of income tax (years 1903 and 1904)	8,061	0	11
To provision for depreciation of steamers, with £20,000 in respect of installations, &c., and £950.15.6 of special extensions	103,021	19	16
To amount written off, costs and expenses of the issue of preference shares	10,000	0	0
To amount written off, American expenses	3,713	3	5
To cost of working European oil business, including provision for results of the trading to 30th April, 1905	112,685	5	10
To London Oil Development Co., (cost of investment written off)	6,625	0	0
To balance carried to balance sheet	257,815	17	0
	£524,075	7	1

Cr.

	£	s.	d.
By balance from year 1903 (£158,852 18s. 9d. *less* dividend paid 1st Jan., 1904, £100,000)	£ 58,85[illegible]	18	9
By net profits for the year 1904, including chartered and other freights, rents of installations, interest and dividends receivable from the Nederlandsch-Indische Company, the P. P. A. G., and the Asiatic Petroleum Company, also further profits from the last named on account of the year 1903 previously estimated	465,222	8	4
	£524,075	7	1

BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1904.

Liabilities.

To capital authorised and paid up:—		
100,000 preference shares of £10 each	1,000,000 0 0	
2,000,000 ordinary shares of £1 each	2,000,000 0 0	
		3,000,000 0 0
To creditors:—		
Bills payable	34,656 10 10	
On current accounts	183,906 3 4	
Unmatured liabilities and charges upon steamers and installations, &c.	607,583 14 10	
		826,146 9 0
To drafts current against shipments		27,241 11 10
To dividend accrued to date on preference shares (payable 1st April, 1905		12 500 0 0
To insurance fund		4,144 14 5
To reserve fund:—		
Amount as shown in balance sheet at 31st December, 1903		400,000. 0. 0
To profit and loss account:—		
Balance per statement above	257 815 17. 0	
Deduct preference share dividend for one year to 31st Dec., 1901	50,000. 0. 0	
		207,815.17. 0
APPROPRIATION.		
Dividend on ordinary shares paid 1st Jan., 1905	100,000. 0. 0	
Carried forward	107,815.17. 0	
	£207,815.17. 0	
		£4,477,848.12. 3

ASSETS.

By property of the Company, viz.:—Steamships, freeholds, buildings, wharves, storage works, plant and installations, &c.		
Amount as per balance sheet at 31st Dec., 1903	£3,048,623.11. 0	
Deduct proceeds of sales of installations *less* expenditure in 1904 on extension of installations and on steamers	33,104. 9. 6	
		£3,015,519. 1. 6
Deduct provision for depreciation of steamers and in respect of installations, &c., viz:—		
Amount at 31st Dec., 1903	391,320.11. 1	
Amount added this year	102,071. 4. 5	
Amount added this year a/c Special Extension	950.15 6	
		£497,342.11. 0
		£2,518,176.10. 6
By advances to the Nederlandsch Indische Industrie en Handel Maatschappij, represented by an "Undertaking" to issue 5 per cent. bonds		840,000. 0. 0
By Debtors on Current account (including certified estimates of amounts recoverable under Marine Policies)		57,786. 5. 4
By accounts with Asiatic Petroleum Co., Ltd		173,893. 4. 0
By accounts with the Nederlandsch Indische Industrie en Handel Maatschappij		69,772.11,10
By unexpired marine insurance premiums, and balances in respect of pending voyages		44,460.16. 2
By stocks of petroleum oil and liquid fuel afloat and in store at cost, freight, and insurance		31,363.15. 8
By sundry stocks		7,893. 8. 8
By balance of cost and expenses of the issue of preference shares (less £30,000 written off to this date)		29,109.18. 1
By balance of American expenses as per balance sheet of 1903	7,085.19. 7	
Add expenditure in 1904	627. 3.10	
	7,713. 3. 5	
Less written off this year to profit and loss account	3,713. 3. 5	
		4,000. 0. 0
By shares in the Petroleum Producte Actien Gesellschaft (marks 3,000,000) at cost		161,025.14. 2
By shares in the Nederlandsche Indische Industrie en Handel Maatschappij (Fl. 2,000,000 nominal, being the capital of the Company) at cost		183,622. 3. 5
By shares in the Asiatic Petroleum Company, Ld., at cost		200,000. 0. 0
By bills receivable in hand		24,872.18. 4
By cash at bankers		131,871.16. 1
		£4,477,848.12. 3

Shipping.

Arrivals.

Kashing, Br. s.s., 1,143, T. W. Rickard, 5th Jan.,—Chinkiang 1st Jan., Oil and Groundnuts.—B. & S.

Castor, Nor. s.s., 774, Martin, 5th Jan.,—Singapore 26th Dec., Kerosine.—Mr. Geo. McBain.

Hanyang, Br. s.s., 1,206, McIntosh, 5th Jan.,—Canton 5th Jan., Gen.—B. & S.

Sumatra, Br. s.s., 2,976, E. W. de W. Bruce, 6th Jan.,—Antwerp 19th Nov., via London 25th, Gen.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Mausang, Br. s.s., 1,644, R. Houghton, 6th Jan.,—Sandakan 30th Dec., Timber and Gen.—J., M. & Co.

Taming, Br. s.s., 1,350, A. W. Outerbridge, 6th Jan.,—Manila 3rd Jan., Gen. and Hemp.—B. & S.

Ischia, Ital. s.s., 2,784, C. Andrea, 6th Jan.,—Bombay 16th Dec., and Singapore 31st, Gen.—C. & Co.

Mercedes, Br. transport, 4,000, J. C. McGregor, 6th Jan.,—Weihaiwei 31st Dec., Ballast.—Admiralty.

Manningtry, Br. s.s., 3,786, Lawson, 6th Jan.,—Pasoran 30th Dec., Sugar.—B. & S.

Clearances at the Harbour Office.

Borneo, for Sandakan.
Rhenania, for Shanghai.
Kohsichang, for Swatow.
Shantung, for Samarang.
Amigo, for Hoihow.
Choysang, for Shanghai.
Daigi Maru, for Swatow.
Hilary, for Foochow.
Yuensang, for Manila.
Vochow, for Shanghai.
Quinta, for Chinkiang.
Sumatra, for Shanghai.
Kashing, for Canton.
Mausang, for Singapore.

Departures.

Jan. 6.

Rubi, for Manila.
Trocas, for Palambang.
Hanyang, for Wuhu.
Hatching, for Swatow.
Yuensang, for Manila.
Amigo, for Hoihow.
Namsang, for Calcutta.
Borneo, for Sandakan.
Choysang, for Shanghai.
Kashing, for Canton.

Passengers arrived.

Per *Ischia*, from Singapore—169 Chinese.

Per *Taming*, from Manila—Capts. Gordon Casserly, Rolubacher, U.S.N., Messrs. J. E. McCilland, C. Bttair, D. A. Sherfey, F. H. Merillat, L. Smith, K. H. Shaffer, Lieut. H. Schuman, Messrs. C. Courtes, W. H. Hooge and R. E. Johnson.

Per *Sumatra*, from London for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. R. Aitken, Mr. and Mrs. Hogge, child, infant and amah, Capt. and Mrs. H. Bathurst, Miss R. Chee, Mr. F. B. Smith, Miss Ario, Mrs. B. M. Caldwell, Master B. Caldwell, Quarter-Master-Sergt. Yule, Sub-Conds. O'Neill and Paiston, Quarter-Master Sergts. Noonan and Pilley, Lt.-Sergt.-Major Ovenden, Lieuts. R. A. Yonge, A. Gordon, R. L. Edward, A. W. V. Hopegood, Rev. W. P. W. William, and Mr. L. Rish. For Shanghai—Mr and Mrs. H. King, child, infant and nurse, Miss Nash, Mr. Taylor, Miss R. Clifton, Mr. R. A. Whikeide, Rev. H. Clement, and Mr. T. E. Phelps. For Yokohama—Mr. C. S. Curteir.

Passengers departed.

Per *China*, for San Francisco—Mr. E. Goddard, Dr. R. M. Powers, Messrs. Jas. Rolph, R. T. Rolph, J. A. Keenly, F. Latimer, D. L. Topping, Miss A. Donaldson, Messrs. C. E. Young, E. W. Bonnafon, W. H. Witherdrink, U.S.N., J. A. B. Smith, Jr., U.S.N., Comdr. E. H. Tillman, U.S.N., Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Eisen, A. E. Dronkers, Comdr. N. A. Anderson, U.S.N., Mrs. L. P. Byrnes, Miss E. F. Robinson, Mr. W. F. Barnes, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Rivenburg, Messrs. T. F. Jones, F. D. Philips and T. M. Matthews. For China and Japan Ports—Miss L. Constable, Mrs. M. S. Bulteel and maid, Lieut. L. C. Richardson, U.S.A., Messrs. O. Vriedman, J. C. Hanna, Edw. A. Pugh, J. McCracken, V. R. Lightbody, Chas. R. Scott and native servant, Mr. J. Calder, Mrs. W. T. Page, Messrs. J. H. Page, Jr., and J. W. Bolles.

Per *Rubi*, for Manila—Messrs. H. Siebenshein, Chas. G. Brunner, Miss J. McCallum, Dr. Muller, Messrs. J. Mustaros, R. Hug, W. [illegible], Mr. and Mrs. Bergmann, Mrs. Matsu Kamko, Miss V. Douglas, Messrs. W. F. Cage, J. F. Bramfield, and Miss Z. Crocker.

Shipping Report.

Str. *Mausang* from Sandakan:—Strong monsoon with rough sea.

Str. *Sumatra* from Antwerp:—Strong monsoons with heavy rains.

Str. *Taming* from Manila:—Moderate wind and sea, clear and cloudy weather.

Str. *Kashing* from Chinkiang:—Experienced strong N'ly winds, and high sea during trip.

Vessels in Port.

STEAMERS.

Alexander, Am. s.s., 1,785, Gove, 13th Nov.,—Cavite 9th Nov. Coal.—Order.

Arratoon Apcar, Br. s.s., 2,931, E. Foy, 2nd Jan.,—Calcutta via Penang and Singapore 27th Dec., Gen.—D. S. & Co., Ld.

Caithness, Br. s.s., 2,222, W. Atkinson, 29th Dec.,—Newcastle, N.S.W. 2nd Dec., Coal.—Order.

Calliope, Br. s.s., 2,498, J. G. Soulsby, 2nd Jan.,—Moji 27th Dec., Coal.—B. & Co.

Daigi Maru, Jap. s.s., 857, S. Tagami, 4th Jan.,—Tamsui via Amoy and Swatow 31st Dec., Gen.—O. S. K.

Dr. Hans Jürg Kiær, Nor. s.s., 691, H. E. Larsen, 19th Dec.,—Iloilo 14th Dec., Sugar.—Aagaard & Thoresen Co.

Elita Nossack, Ger. s.s., 1,160, W. Lassen, 31st Dec.,—Canton 30th Dec., Gen.—S. & Co.

Emma Luyken, Ger. s.s., 1,160, G. Cornand, 1st Jan.,—Canton 31st Dec., Coal.—Order.

Empress of China, Br. s.s., 3,046, R. Archibald, R.N.R., 19th Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., 27th Nov., and Shanghai 16th Dec., Mails and Gen.—C. P. R. Co.

Fausang, Br. s.s., 1,410, F. Wheeler, 3rd Jan.,—Sourabaya 25th Dec., Sugar.—J., M. & Co.

Fernandez Hermanos, Am. s.s., 482, ———, 3rd Jan.,—Manila 30th Dec., Gen.—G., L. & Co.

Hercules, Nor. s.s., 2,439, G. Bjerck, 5th Jan.,—Kutchinotzu 3rd Dec., Coal.—M. B. K.

Nippon Maru, Jap. s.s., 3,072, W. W. Greene, 4th Jan.,—Yokohama 27th Dec., Mails and Gen.—N. Y. K.

Pronto, Nor. s.s., 860, Hälsen, 5th Jan.,—Haiphong and Hoihow 3rd Jan., Gen.—A. R. M.

Quinta, Ger. s.s., 2,200, Frahm, 30th Dec.,—Port Louis via Singapore 4th Dec., Sugar.—Nam Wing & Co.

Reigate, Br. s.s., 2,504, F. R. Ross, 2nd Jan.,—from Newcastle, N.S.W., Coal.—M. B. S.

Rhenania, Ger. s.s., 6,416, Th. Förck, 5th Jan.,—Singapore 29th Dec., Gen.—H. A. L.

Shantung, Br. s.s., 1,400, Jno. Robinson, 3rd Jan.,—Java 23rd Dec., Sugar.—B. & S.

Taiyuan, Br. s.s., 2,300, L. Dawson, 3rd Jan.,—Melbourne 2nd Dec., Gen.—B. & S.

Telemachus, Br. s.s., 1,340, J. Williamson, 4th Jan.,—Saigon 29th Dec., Meal, &c.—Chinese.

Thode Fagelund, Nor. s.s., 4,382, G. Staneford, 15th Dec.,—Newcastle, N.S.W., 23rd Nov., Coal.—S., T. & Co.

Yochow, Br. s.s., 1,305, J. H. Brown, 5th Jan.,—Canton 4th Jan., Gen.—B. & S.

SAILING VESSELS.

Celtic Chief, Br. ship, 1,709, Jones, 9th Nov.,—Philadelphia, 10th June, Kerosine.—S. O. Co.

Otra, Nor. ship, 1,199, E. Refsnes, 24th Dec.,—Fremantle 18th Oct., Sandalwood.—S. & Co.

Rose, Br. bq., 822, Wright, 10th Nov.,—West Australia 4th Aug., Sandal Wood.—S. & Co.

Simla, Br. 4-masted bq., 2,087, Casson, 13th Dec.,—Cardiff 4th July, Patent Fuel.—Naval Yard.

Steamers Expected.

Vessels	*From*	*Agents*	*Due*
P. Waldemar	Japan	M. & Co.	Jan. 7
Tjimahi	Kobe	J. C. J. L.	Jan. 8
Caledonien	Saigon	M. M.	Jan. 9
Kutsang	Singapore	J., M. & Co	Jan. 9
Athenian	Shanghai	C. P. R. Co	Jan. 9
Zafiro	Manila	S., T. & Co	Jan. 9
Doric	Japan	O. & O. Co	Jan. 10
Saint Bede	Singapore	B. & S.	Jan. 11
Tjiliwong	Macassar	J. C. J. L.	Jan. 12
P. Sigismund	Sydney	M. & Co.	Jan. 14
Emp. of India.	Vancouver	C. P. R. Co	Jan. 17

DOCK RETURNS

HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCKS.

Kaifong	Kowloon Dock.
C. Hardouin	" "
Hoching	" "
Yatshing	" "
H.M.S. Hogue	" "

SHANGHAI.

28th ult.

Pekin	Cosmopolitan,	Dec. 23
Kungping	New,	" 27

Ships Passed The Canal.

Outward—30th December—*Preussen, Prinz Regent Luitpold, Ceylon.* 3rd January—*Baralong.*

Homeward—30th December—*Avala, Benalder, Achilles, Denbighshire, Menelaus, Ras Issa, Poona, Salazie, Serbia, Verona, Bantu, Indrasamha.* 3rd January—*Scandia, Hyades, Kobe, Redhill.*

Arrivals at Home—30th December—*Benvenue, Sachsen.* 1st January—*Socotra.* 3rd January—*Senegambia.*

Post Office.

A Mail will close for:—

Shanghai, Moji, Kobe and Yokohama—Per *Sumatra*, 7th Jan., 9 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungshan*, 8th Jan., 1.15 P.M.

Cebu and Manila—Per *Palma*, 8th Jan., 5 P.M.

Simpsonhafen, Fr. Wilhelmshafen, Herbertshohe, Matupi, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne—Per *Prinz Waldemar*, 9th Jan., 10 A.M.

Europe, &c., India, via Tuticorin Per *Ernest Simons*, 9th Jan., 11 A.M.

Macao—Per *Heungshan*, 9th Jan., 1.15 P.M.

Kobe—Per *Kowloon*, 9th Jan., 3 P.M.

Shanghai—Per *Loongmoon*, 9th Jan., 3 P.M.

Manila—Per *Taming*, 9th Jan., 3 P.M.

Yokohama and Kobe—Per *Taiyuan*, 9th Jan., 3 P.M.

Shanghai, Nagasaki, Kobe, Yokohama, Victoria and Vancouver, B.C.—Per *Empress of China*, 10th Jan., 11 A.M.

TO-MORROW.

St. Peter's Seamen's Church.

Queen's Road, West.

Morning Prayer 11 a.m., Venite, Elvey; Te Deum, Jones; Benedictus, Twalbeck; Jubilate; Hymns, 34, 87, 86 and 33; Kyrie, Arnold. Holy Communion 12.15 p.m.

Evening Prayer, 6.30 p.m., Cantate, Monk; Deus, Hopkins; Hymns, 88, 89, 296 and 32.

The Church launch *Dayspring* will call on ships carrying white crews to bring friends ashore to the services between 9.15 and 10.30 a.m., and between 5.15 and 6 p.m., (Kowloon Police Pier, 10.30 and 6 p.m.): returning afterwards. The Answering Pennant is the Call flag. All the sittings are free and unappropriated. Visitors welcome. Books, &c. provided. Sunday school 10 to 10.45 a.m.

Roman Catholic Cathedral:—Mass at 6 a.m., 7 a.m., 8 a.m., and 9.30 a.m. Benediction, 5.30 p.m.

German Bethesda Chapel, West Point:—Morning Service, 11 a.m.

St. Francis' Church, Wanchai:—Mass (*Chin.*), 6 a.m., (*Port.*), 7.30 a.m. Benediction, 5 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road:—Morning Service (*English*), 9 a.m.

St. Anthony's Chapel, West Point:—Mass, 8 a.m.

Union Church:—Services, 11 a.m., and 6 p.m.

VISITORS AT THE HOTELS.

KING EDWARD.

Albers, W.
Alpine, Mrs. K. M.
Asherly, David
Barnes, Mrs.
Bonde, Mr.
Brunner, Chas. C.
Burrill, H. R.
Cummings, H. W.
Curtis, C. B.
Datton, A.
Dismukes, D. E. and child
Double, R.N., Comdr. Thorpe
Double, Mrs.
Douglas, Miss
Fraser, Mr. and Mrs. H. W.
Fraker, C. H.
Gomez, G. M.
Hamperly, Mr. & Mrs.
Haslewood, C. H.
Hislop, Rev. C.
Hoggs, W. H.
Joseph, Mr. and Mrs. E. S.
Jackson, Mrs. and child
Logan, W.
Lugebil, V.
Morre, F. G.
Moses, E. J.
Moulder, Mr. and Mrs. A. B.
Nursaw, E.
Parker, W. T.
Richy, L. M.
Rohobacher, Comdr. J. H.
Schreiner, Otto
Seymour, Mrs. I. K.
Staeger, O.
Stanley, H. L.
Textor, Capt. H.
Tobin, R. J.
Unbehaun, C. H.

HONGKONG.

Acheson, Mr. and Mrs. J.
Agostini, A.
Anderson, Mrs. K.
Battiscombe, H. G.
Bell, R.N., Engr.-Lieut. H. F.
Berblinger, A.
Birbeck, R. J.
Bishop, L. C.
Bisney, Mr. & Mrs. S.
Bisney, Miss
Bissell, W. S.
Begert, H. L.
Bogert, T. L.
Bonnar, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. C.
Bonner, E. A.
Borthwick, R. W.
Borthwick, Mrs. R. W. and child
Broughall, L.
Burnie, C. M. G.
Chatham, Hon. & Mrs. W.
Clark, M. O.
Clark, T.
Clarke, Mr. and Mrs. T. W.
Clegg, R.N., Eng. Lt. and Mrs. H. I.
Colls, Mrs. & 2 Misses
Colvin, H. E.
Copp, Mrs and Miss
Coulthart, J.
Cruickshank, A.
Cunningham, G.
Davies, F. O.
Deacon, F. B.
Doolittle, F. H.
Douglas, Capt. & Mrs. J.
Dowley, Mr. and Mrs. W. A.
Downing, Mr. and Mrs. T. C. and infant
Evan-Jones, Dr. and Mrs. E.
Fischer, E.
Fischer, R.
Fletcher, H.
Frankels, C. W.
Full, Mr. and Mrs. A.
Goldstein, A. E.
Grant, R.N., Capt. and Mrs.
Gray, T. C.
Hall, Capt. T
Haughwont, W. B.
Hardy, R.N., Lt. and Mrs. C. T.
Harker, B. B.
Holt, B. G.
Hollingsworth, Mr. & Mrs.
Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. H.
Hunter, R.
Hurst, R.N., Engineer-Capt.
Husted, M. S.
Innes, Capt. R.
Johannsen, Edm.
Jameson, Mr. and Mrs. J. W.
Jokl, J. P. F.
Kent, H. W.
Kerr, F.
Kerr, Mr. & Mrs. J. K.
Koenig, C.
Köhler, W. O.
Laing, A. H.
Lewis, L. S.
Low, C. L.
Marriott, Dr. O.
Maier, Mr. and Mrs. John
Miller, P. L.
Moon, Mr. & Mrs. E. M.
Moore, Dr. W. B. A.
Morrison, Mrs. & child
Newall, S. G.
Newington, A. G.
Nicholls, E. A.
Oliffe, O. C.
Parfitt, W.
Patey, Mrs. E. O.
Peake, W.
Pecker, B. L.
Pennefather, Mrs. G. H.
Pfordten, A. R.
Pigott, C.
Powell, W. A.
Reel, Dr. L. R.
Ripley, H. L.
Roach, Mrs. J. S. and child
Robbins, R.N., Lieut. and Mrs. J. F.
Schalthöfer, P.
Scott, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. and child
Shea, J. J.
Skott, C.
Spittles, J. S.
Stein, A. L.
Stein, Dr.
Stein, D.
Steinmetz, Th.
Stephens, H.
Stevenson, R.N., Lieut. Comdr. and Mrs. E.
Thomas, H. P.
Thomas, Miss M. L.
Thompson, J. K.
Thompson, N. S.
Wakefield, Mrs. and Miss
Watkins, Miss E.
Whitlow, A. W.
Wood, G. G.
Wright, Mr. & Mrs. T.
Young, J. A.

PEAK.

Aucott, E. F.
Beattie, A.
Bentinck, Mrs.
Buxton, Lady B.
Chichester, Maj. A. A.
Clothier, A. N.
Cocks, Mr. & Mrs. A. E.
Daniel, Mr.
Darling, Col.
Earnshaw, D.
Fenton, Mr.
Gales, Capt.
Gaster, E.
Gearle, Rev.
Gracey, Mr.
Harker, B. Brotherton
Hassan, Mr. and Mrs.
Haynes, Col.
Hazeland, F. A.
Howard, Mr. and Mrs. W. H.
Hughes, Mr.
Jacks, Mr.
Jeffries, H. U.
Joseph, Mr. and Mrs.
Josling, Lt.-Col.
Kaye, Major and Mrs.
Kelsall, Major & Mrs.
Knight, Mr.
Louder, Mr.
Martin, R.
Mitchell, R.
Moss, Mrs.
Moxon, Mr. and Mrs.
Ollis, F. B.
Painter, Major & Mrs.
Parry, Major
Peeble, Mr.
Philips, Mr. and Mrs.
Pollock, K.C., Mr.
Quennell, Capt.
Sawer, Capt. and Mrs.
Sinclair, A.
Stadt, Mr. and Mrs. Van de
Stokes, Mr.
Thomas, Mrs. Carl
Thomas, Misses
Vandin, Gordon
Vereker, Capt. & Mrs.
Watson, Mr. & Mrs. M.
White, Dr. M. J.
Wilkie, Mr. and Mrs. John
Woodward, Mr. & Mrs.

CRAIGIEBURN.

Adams, M. and Mrs. F. R. J.
Barnett, H. J. O.
Dann, G. H.
Dow, P.
Falloon, C. H.
Gaskell, Mr. and Mrs.
Harben, Mr. and Mrs.
Marchant, Capt. and Mrs. and children
Marchant, Miss
Jameson, P. S.
Reynolds, F. O.
Smith, E. Grant
Smith, Mr. and Mrs Grant
Smith, Percy
Soppa, P.
Webb, Mr. and Mrs. Montague

OCCIDENTAL.

Caspersen, S.
Dollinger, Mrs. A. and child
Gujoh, T.
Hachne, Dr. Med.
Hemp, A.
Horstmann, H.
Hug, R.
Kegel, Mr.
Keller, W.
Kempel, Capt. C.
Keyt, Dr. H.
Kollecker, Dr. M. E.
Krill, G.
Lack, Dr. M. E.
Lindeburg, H.
Lindemann, Dr.
Lionen, W.
Lowe, Miss Siesie
Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. J. C.
Majer, Capt. and Mrs. N. J.
McKay, J.
Martin, H.
Munro, Miss A.
Mustarros, J.
Owen, O. E.
Packham, Mr. & Mrs. R. and 2 daughters
Schönberg, Victor
Smend, Dr. Med.
Stoltz, O.
Wedland, Dr. M. G.
Zemmer, Dr. Med.
Zimmermann, Dr. M. H.

KOWLOON.

Ainslie, Dr. D. H.
Charlton, R.N., Capt. and Mrs. E. and nurse
Binder, Mrs. F. C.
Crawford, Mrs. A.
Hall, A. J.
Hogge, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. and children
Reynolds, F. O.

CHINA COAST METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER.

January 5th, 1906, a.m.

		Bar.	Th.	Hu.	Wind		Wr.
Vladivostock	7 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nemuro	6 a.m.	30.24	—	—	W	2	—
Hakodate	"	30.21	—	—	NW	4	—
Tokio	"	30.30	—	—	NW	4	—
Kochi	"	30.19	—	—	SW	10	—
Nagasaki	"	30.19	—	—	—	0	—
Kagoshima	"	30.15	—	—	N	4	—
Oshima	"	30.08	—	—	—	0	—
Naha	"	30.13	—	—	N	8	—
Ishigakijima	"	30.13	—	—	NE	4	—
Taihoku	5 a.m.	30.19	—	—	E	4	—
Taichu	"	30.15	—	—	N	2	—
Tainan	"	30.12	—	—	NE	4	—
Koshun	"	30.07	—	—	NE	8	—
Pescadores	"	30.13	—	—	NE	8	—
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30.43	34	—	WNW	2	o
Gutzlaff	"	30.41	40	82	N	4	cm.
Sharp Peak	"	30.26	55	94	NW	1	og
Amoy	6.30 a.	30.16	56	94	NE	1	c
Swatow	9 a.m.	30.26	54	87	N	1	c
Canton	"	30.28	55	87	N	1	c
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.25	63	72	E	1	o
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	E	3	—
Gap Rock	"	30.22	—	—	NE	4	—
Macao	"	30.21	57	—	NW	1	o
Haiphong	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manila	"	30.00	81	76	WNW	1	o
Bacolod	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Iloilo	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cebu	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. St. James	10 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—

January 6th, 1906, a.m.

		Bar.	Th.	Hu.	Wind		Wr.
Vladivostock	7 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nemuro	6 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hakodate	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tokio	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kochi	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nagasaki	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kagoshima	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oshima	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Naha	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ishigakijima	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Taihoku	5 a.m.	30.17	—	—	E	6	—
Taichu	"	30.13	—	—	N	2	—
Tainan	"	30.11	—	—	N	6	—
Koshun	"	30.07	—	—	NE	6	—
Pescadores	"	30.13	—	—	NE	10	—
Weihaiwei	9 a.m.	30.41	32	—	NNE	2	b
Gutzlaff	"	30.39	43	83	N	3	bv
Sharp Peak	"	30.30	54	87	NNW	2	og
Amoy	6.30 a	30.15	57	87	NE	3	c
Swatow	9 a.m.	30.16	60	88	NE	2	o
Canton	"	30.22	58	94	NW	1	o
Hongkong	10 a.m.	30.23	64	73	—	0	o
Victoria Peak	"	—	—	—	ENE	1	—
Gap Rock	"	30.21	—	—	NNE	4	—
Macao	"	30.21	56	—	N	2	c
Haiphong	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Manila	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bacolod	9 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ilo lo	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cebu	"	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. St. James	10 a.m.	—	—	—	—	—	—

HIS BRITANNIC MAJESTY'S SHIPS ON THE CHINA STATION.

NAME.	CLASS.	TONS.	GUNS.	I.H.P.	CAPTAIN.	LAST REPORTED AT
lacrity	despatch-vessel	1,700	4	3,000	Commander Harbord	Hongkong
Andromeda	cruiser, 1st class	11,000	16	16,500	Captain R. Nelson Ommanney	Shanghai
Arun	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander R. H. Heaton	Hongkong
Astraea	cruiser, 2nd class	4,360	10	7,000	Captain Lionel G. Tufnell	Shanghai
Bonaventure	cruiser, 2nd class	4,360	10	7,000	Captain H. H. Torlesse	Shanghai
Cadmus	sloop	1,070	6	1,400	Commander H. du C. Luard	Yangtsze
Cherub	water tank and tug	390	—	300	———	Hongkong
Clio	sloop	1,070	6	1,400	Commander H. D. Wilkin, D.S.O.	Yangtsze
Diadem *	cruiser, 1st class	11,000	16	16,500	Captain H. W. Savory	Hongkong
Dee	torpedo boat destroyer	560	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander H. E. Sulivan	Hongkong
Erne	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander Bather	Hongkong
Ettrick	torpedo boat destroyer	560	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander Lewin	Hongkong
Exe	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Commander A. F. Everett	Hongkong
Fame	torpedo boat destroyer	306	6	5,700	Lieut.-Commander Stevenson	Hongkong
Flora	cruiser, 2nd class	4,360	10	7,000	Captain H. Grant-Dalton	Singapore
Handy	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4,000	Lieut.-Commander H. B. Cox	Hongkong
Hart	torpedo boat destroyer	275	6	4,000	Lieut.-Commander Richards	Hongkong
Hecla	special service torpedo-v	6,400	—	2,400	Captain E. F. B. Charlton	Hongkong
Hogue	cruiser, 1st class	12,000	14	21,000	Captain Shortland	Hongkong
Itchen	torpedo boat destroyer	550	6	7,000	Lieut.-Commander C. Seymour	Hongkong
Janus	torpedo boat destroyer	280	6	3,900	Lieut.-Commander W. H. Darwall	Hongkong
Kinsha	river gunboat	85	4	1,200	Lieut.-Commander E. V. F. R. Dugmore	Yangtsze
Moorhen	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Commander F. B. Noble	West River
Otter	torpedo boat destroyer	350	6	6,300	Lieut.-Commander J. Kiddle	Hongkong
Rambler	surveying-vessel	835	6	650	Commander C. E. Monro	Surveying (Labuan
Robin	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander Robert E. Vaughan.	West River
Sandpiper	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander H. T. Atlay	West River
Snipe	river gunboat	85	2	240	Lieut.-Commander J. T. S. Lyne	Yangtsze
Taku	torpedo boat destroyer	250	6	6,500	In reserve	Hongkong
Sutlej	cruiser, 1st class	12,000	14	21,000	Captain W. L. Grant	Hongkong
Tamar	receiving ship	4,650	6	—	Commodore H. P. Williams	Hongkong
Teal	river gunboat	180	2	800	Lieut.-Commander E. Secretan	Yangtsze
Virago	torpedo boat destroyer	355	6	6,300	Lieut.-Commander Hughes	Hongkong
Waterwitch	surveying ship	620	4	450	Commander R. W. Glennie	Hongkong
Whiting	torpedo boat destroyer	360	6	5,900	Lieut.-Commander C. E. L. Thomas	Hongkong
Widgeon	river gunboat	195	2	800	Lieut.-Commander G. B. Spicer-Simson	Yangtsze
Woodcock	river gunboat	150	2	550	Lieut.-Commander G. J. Todd	Yangtsze
Woodlark	river gunboat	150	2	550	Lieut.-Commander Jno. F. Knox	Yangtsze

* Flying-Flag of Admiral Sir Gerard U. Noel, Commander-in-Chief.

FRENCH MEN-OF-WAR ON THE CHINA STATION.

NAME.	FLAG AND DESCRIPTION.	TONS.	GUNS.	H. P.	COMMANDING OFFICERS.	LAST REPORTED AT
Achéron	armoured gunboat	1,796	10	1,700	Lieut. Ferret	Saigon
Adour	transport	—	—	—	Lieut. Merle	Haiphong
Argus	river gunboat	123	—	500	Lieut. Jeannel	Hongkong
Avalanche	river gunboat	140	5	150	———	Haiphong
Baionnette	river gunboat	—	—	150	———	Saigon
Caronade	river gunboat	—		150	Lieut. Millet	Saigon
Casse-tête	river gunboat	140	5	150	———	Saigon
Comète	gunboat	525	4	438	Lieut. Merveilleux du Vignaux	Gulf of Siam
D'Assas	armoured cruiser	4,000	31	9,500	Captain Allnaire	Saigon
Décidée	gunboat	645	10	1,000	Lieutenant L'Eost	Haiphong
Descartes	cruiser	3,985	14	5,500	Commander Amet	Shanghai
Dupetit-Thouars	armoured cruiser	10,014	—	—	———	Saigon
Estoc	river gunboat	303	—	—	Lieut. Mère	Haiphong
Francisque	destroyer	303	7	6,300	Lieut. Cotoni	Saigon
Fronde	destroyer	350	—	303	Lieut. Bihel	Saigon
Guichen †	protected cruiser	—	—	—	Capt. Tracou	Saigon
Gueydon	armoured cruiser	9,376	7	20,200	Capt. Ridoux	Saigon
Henri Rivière	river gunboat	—	—	—	Lieut. Portier	Haiphong
Jacquin	river gunboat	200	6	308	Lieut. Le Coroller	Haiphong
Javeline	destroyer	307	—	300	Commander Sagot-Duvauroux	Saigon
Kersaint ‡	cruiser	1,250	7	2,200	Commander Simon	Saigon
Lynx	sub-marine	—	—	—	Armbruster	Saigon
Montcalm*	armoured cruiser	9,500	12	19,600	Capt. Martel	Saigon
Mousquet	destroyer	307	7	6,300	Lieut. Duchemin	Saigon
Olry	river gunboat	—	—	—	Lieut. Grellier	Chungking
Peiho	gunboat	—	—	—	Lieut. Marchand	Tongku
Perle	sub-marine	—	—	—	———	Saigon
Pistolet	destroyer	307	7	6,300	———	Saigon
Protée	sub-marine	—	—	—	Lieut. Glorieux	Saigon
Rapière	destroyer	—	—	—	Lieut. Vincent-Bridognac	———
Redoutable	battleship, reserve	9,437	8	6,071	Flagship of Rear-Admiral de Marolles, Capt. Passerat de Silans, Com'ding the local naval defence of Indo-China	Saigon
Sabre	destroyer	—	—	—	Lieut. Lebail	Saigon
Styx	armoured gunboat	1,796	10	1,700	Capt. Dupriez	Saigon
Surprise	gunboat	629	2	900	Lieut. Roque	Baie d'Along
Takiang	river gunboat	—	—	—	———	Upper Yangtse
Takou	destroyer	250	6	—	Commander Terquem	Saigon
Vauban	battleship, reserve	6,150	23	4,560	———	Hongay
Vétéran	receiving-ship	—	—	—	Lieut. Fougerousse	Saigon
Vigilante	river gunboat	123	7	500	Lieut. Brugnon	Canton

* Flagship of Vice-Admiral Richard, Commander-in-Chief.
† Flagship of Rear-Admiral Boisse, Second-in-Command.
‡ At the disposal of Rear-Admiral de Marolles, Commanding the naval defence of Indo-China.

Intimations.

SHARE QUOTATIONS.

Supplied by Messrs. BENJAMIN, KELLY & POTTS. Corrected to noon; later alterations given under "Commercial Intelligence," page 5.

STOCKS.	NO. OF SHARES.	VALUE.	PAID UP.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT. RESERVE.	POSITION AS PER LAST REPORT. AT WORKING ACCOUNT.	LAST DIVIDEND.	APPROXIMATE RETURN AT PRESENT QUOTATION.	CLOSING QUOTATIONS
BANKS.								
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation	80,000	$125	$125	£1,000,000; $8,500,000; $250,000	$1,702,728	£1 15/- @ exchange 1/10½=$18.66.67 for first half-year 1905	5 %	$895; London £93
National Bank of China, Limited	99,925	£7	£5	$200,000	$41,768	$2 (London 3/6) for 1903	...	$38 buyers
MARINE INSURANCES.								
Canton Insurance Office, Limited	10,000	$250	$50	$1,600,000; $147,895	$211,540	$20 for 1904	6⅔ %	$315 sellers
China Traders' Insurance Company, Limited	24,000	$83.33	$25	$950,000; $169,215; $202,455; $296,955	Nil.	$4½ for year ended 30.9.1905	5½ %	$90 buyers
North China Insurance Company, Limited	10,000	£15	£5	£100,000; Tls. 100,000; Tls. 50,000	Tls. 302,053	Final of 7/6 making 15/- for 1904	5½ %	Tls. 95
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	10,000	$250	$100	$2,000,000; £40,000; $331,453; $1,043,930; $1,152,364	$2,339,112	$40 for 1904	5½ %	$520 buyers
Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited	8,000	$100	$60	$750,000; $5,000; $5,890	$486,284	$12 and $3 special dividend for 1903	8½ %	$170
FIRE INSURANCES.								
China Fire Insurance Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$20	$1,000,000; $218,093; $2,241	$329,047	$6 dividend & $1 bonus for 1903	8 %	$90 buyers
Hongkong Fire Insurance Company, Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$1,200,505	$360,372	$34 for 1903	11 %	$330
SHIPPING.								
China and Manila Steamship Company, Limited	30,000	$25	$25	$5,000	$8,832	$1 for 1904	5 %	$20 sales
Douglas Steamship Company, Limited	20,000	$50	$50	$261,638; $88,941	Nil.	$3½ for year ended 30.6.1905	9½ %	$36½ buyers
Hongkong, Canton & Macao Steamboat Co., Ld.	80,000	$15	$15	$250,000; $600,000; $145,376	18,064	$1 for first half-year 1905	8 %	$25½ buyers
Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Limited	60,000	£10	£10	£120,000; £241,150; £3,999	£4,435	12/- @ 1/10½=$6.29.51 for 1904	7 %	$92
Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	200,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 43,762	Interim of Tls. 2 for 1905	8 %	Tls. 58 buyers
Do. (Preference)	100,000					Interim of Tls. 1½ for 1905	8 %	Tls. 47 buyers
"Shell" Transport and Trading Company, Limited	2,000,000	£1	£1	£400,000; £4,144	107,815	1/- (Coupon No. 6. for 1905	4½ %	22/6 ex div.
"Star" Ferry Company, Limited	10,000; 10,000	$10; $10	$10; $5	$65,000; $24,257	$929	$1.80; $0.90 for year ending 30.6.1905	5½ %; 4 %	$32 sellers; $23 sellers
Straits Steamship Company, Limited	5,000	$100	$100	$400,000; $21,075; $130,153	$21,231	$10 for 1904	7 %	$149 buyers
Taku Tug and Lighter Company, Limited	36,000	T.Tls. 50	T.Tls. 50	Tls. 98,000; Tls. 195,479; Tls. 28,000; Tls. 81,200	Tls. 4,333	Interim of Tls. 2 for 1905	9½ %	Tls. 35 buyers
REFINERIES.								
China Sugar Refining Company, Limited	20,000	$100	$100	$450,000; $150,000	$42,812	Interim of $10 for 1905	10 %	$205
Luzon Sugar Refining Company, Limited	7,000	$100	$100	none	Dr. $85,987	$3 for 1897	...	$25 sales
Perak Sugar Cultivation Company, Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 3,723	Tls. 2½ for year ending 30.9.04	...	Tls. 62 sales
MINING.								
Chinese Engineering and Mining Company, Ld.	1,000,000	£1	£1	£80,000; £26,011	£13,355	Final of 1/- (No. 5)	...	Tls. 6 sales
Oriental Consolidated Mining Company, Limited	500,000	G $10	G. $10	none	G $672,093	Final of 50 cents making G $1 for 1905	...	G. $16½
Paub Australian Gold Mining Company, Limited	150,000; 50,000	£1; £1	18/10; £1	£4,873	Dr. £8,745	No. 12 of 1/-=48 cents	...	$4½ buyers
DOCKS, WHARVES & GODOWNS.								
Farnham, (S. C.) Boyd & Co., Limited	55,200	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 1,000,000	Tls. 34,924	Interim of Tls. 4 for year 1905/6	10 %	Tls. 120 ex div. s.
Fenwick (Geo.) & Co., Limited	6,000; 12,000	$25	$25	$70,000	$8,577	$3.75 for 1904 on old capital; First year	...; ...	$25 buyers; $24½
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf and Godown, Co., Ld.	40,000	$50	$50	$250,000; $58,473; $10,000; $300,000	$29,422	Interim of $2½ for 1905	4½ %	$108 buyers
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Ld.	50,000	$50	$50	$41,500	$501,332	$6 for first half-year 1905	8 %	$164
New Amoy Dock Company, Limited	10,000	$6⅔	$6⅔	$55,500	Dr. 10,260	$1½ for 1903	7 %	$17
Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf Company	32,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 487,210; Tls. 59,880	Tls. 10,711	Interim of Tls. 6 for 1905	5½ %	Tls. 225 buyers
Yangtsze Wharf and Godown Company, Limited	2,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 17,500	Tls. 2,762	Tls. 18 for 1904	9½ %	Tls. 190 buyers
LANDS, HOTELS & BUILDING.								
Astor House Hotel Company, Limited (Shanghai)	30,000	$25	$25	$14,516	$9,028	$2½ for year ended 30.6.1905	9 %	$28 sales
Astor House Hotel, Limited (Tientsin)	2,000	T.Tls. 50	T.Tls. 50	Tls. 34,000; Tls. 8,000	Tls. 806	Interim of Tls. 5 for year 1905/6	8 %	Tls. 130 buyers
Central Stores, Limited	6,000	$15	$12			Final of 60 cents making $1.80 for 1904	12 %	$15
Do. (Founders')	123	$15	$12	$20,000	$1,502	None	...	$100
Do. (New Issue)	24,000	$15	$7½			Preferential of 7 per cent for 1904	7 %	$7½ sales.
Hongkong Hotel Company, Limited	12,000	$50	$50	$648,975; $31,087	$10,126	$5 for first half-year 1905	6½ %	$150 sales
Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ld.	50,000	$100	$100	$250,000	$37,875	Interim of $3½ for 1905	5½ %	$125 sales
Hotel des Colonies Company, Limited (Shanghai)	9,000	Tls. 25	Tls. 25	Tls. 20,986	Tls. 7,202	Interim of Tl. 1	15 %	Tls. 16 sellers
Hotel Metropole Company, Limited	2,000	$100	$100	.....	First year	Final of $6 making $10	9⅔ %	$102½
Humphreys Estate & Finance Company, Limited	150,000	$10	$10	$200,994; $50,000	$11,958	90 cents for 1904	7½ %	$13
Kowloon Land and Building Company, Limited	6,000	$50	$30	none	$377	$3 for 1904	7½ %	$41
Shanghai Land Investment Company, Limited	52,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 828,813; Tls. 170,000	Tls. 40,066	Interim of Tls. 3 for 1905	6⅔ %	Tls. 120 sales
Tientsin Hotel des Colonies, Limited	1,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	none	Tls. 670	Interim of Tls. 3 for 1905	12 %	Tls. 45 sellers
Tientsin Land Investment Company, Limited	7,726	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 67,300	Tls. 725	Interim of Tls. 3 for 1905	6 %	Tls. 115 sellers
West Point Building Company, Limited	12,500	$50	$50	none	$1,247	Interim of $1½ for 1905	6½ %	$55 sales
COTTON MILLS.								
Ewo Cotton Spinning and Weaving Company, Ld.	45,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45,939	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 8 for year ended 31.10.1904	18½ %	Tls. 44 sellers
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving and Dyeing Company, Limited	125,000	$10	$10	$30,000	$23,264	$1 for the year ending 31.7.05	7½ %	$13
International Cotton Manufacturing Company, Ld.	10,000	Tls. 75	Tls. 75	Tls. 100,000	Tls. 18,718	Interim of 3 % a/c 1898	...	Tls. 40 buyers
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving Co., Ld.	8,000	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	none	Tls. 10,000	Interim of 4 % a/c 1898	...	Tls. 54 sellers
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Company, Limited	2,000	Tls. 500	Tls. 500	Tls. 5,658	Tls. 22,050	4 % for 1897	...	Tls. 250 buyers
MISCELLANEOUS.								
Anglo-German Brewing Company, Limited	4,000	$100	$100	none	$20	None	...	$180
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited	8,604	12/6	12/6	£314	£770	1/3 per share for 1904	9 %	$7½ sales
Campbell, Moore & Co., Limited	1,200	$10	$10	$8,000	$1,182	$3 for 1904	8⅓ %	$36
China-Borneo Company, Limited	60,000	$12	$12	none	Nil.	$1 for 1904	10 %	$10 sellers
China Flour Mill Co., Limited	4,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 30,000	Tls. 718	Interim of Tls. 5 for 1905	...	Tls. 80 sellers
China Light and Power Company, Limited	50,000	$10	$10	none	$3,739	None	...	$10
China Provident Loan & Mortgage Company, Ld.	100,000	$10	$10	$8,000	$1,581	80 cents for 1904	9 %	$9
Dairy Farm Company, Limited	25,000	$7½	$6	$25,000	$2,864	$1.20 for year ending 31.7.1905	7½ %	$15½ buyers
Green Island Cement Company, Limited	150,000	$10	$10	$400,000; $500,000	$95,054	$2 for 1904	7 %	$28½ buyers
Hall & Holtz, Limited	21,000	$20	$20	$186,000	$7,551	Final of $1½ making $2½	10 %	$25½ sales
Hongkong Electric Company, Limited	30,000; 30,000	$10; $10	$10; $10	none	$2,151	$1.00; 50 cents for year ending 30.4.1905	5½ %; 14½ %	$15 buyers; $14½ buyers
Hongkong High-Level Tramways Company, Ld.	1,250	$100	$100	$50,000	$2,796	$15 for year ending 30.11.1904	7 %	$225
Hongkong Ice Company, Limited	5,000	$25	$25	$60,000	$5,356	Interim of $4 for 1905	7 %	$235 buyers
Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Company, Ld.	10,000	$50	$50	$60,000	$11,137	$10 for 1904	7 %	$152 buyers
Hongkong Steam Waterboat Company, Limited	15,000	$10	$10	$2,500	$88	Final of 50 cents making $1 for the year	7½ %	$13 sellers
Lane, Crawford & Co., Limited (Shanghai)	2,500	$100	$100	none	$21,582	Interim of $5 for 1904	9½ %	$145
Maatschappij tot Mijn-, Bosch- en Landbouwexploitatie in Langkat, Limited	25,000	Gs. 100	Gs. 100	Tls. 528,210; Tls. 19,465	Tls. 35,849	4th interim of Tls. 7½ paid 15.12.05 making in all Tls. 22½ for 1905	10½ %	Tls. 210 buyers
Mondon, (E. L.) Limited	7,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	none	Dr. Tls. 117,638	Tls. 5 for 1902	...	Tls. 25 sellers
Philippine Company, Limited	67,500	$10	$10	none	Dr. P. $53,619	None	...	$5 buyers
Shanghai & Hongkong Dyeing and Cleaning Co., Ld.	1,200	$50	$50	none	Dr. $16,455	None	...	$50
Shanghai Gas Company, Limited	16,000	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 145,000; Tls. 108,172	Tls. 8,011	Interim of Tls. 3½ for 1905	7 %	Tls. 128 buyers
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Company, Limited	5,400	Tls. 50	Tls. 50	Tls. 45,000	Tls. 9,751	Tls. 6 for 1904	9 %	Tls. 67½
Shanghai Pulp and Paper Company, Limited	4,500	Tls. 100	Tls. 100	Tls. 25,000	Tls. 6,968	Interim of Tls. 6 for 1905	9 %	Tls. 150 sellers
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Company, Limited	30,000	Tls. 20	Tls. 20	Tls. 24,820; Tls. 25,000	Tls. 1,297	Interim of Tls. 2	14 %	Tls. 65 sellers
Shanghai Waterworks Company, Limited	7,200	£20	£20	Tls. 170,000	Tls. 17,220	Interim of 15/- for 1905	4½ %	Tls. 450 buyers
South China Morning Post, Limited	6,000	$25	$25	none	Dr. $5,068	None	...	$20
Steam Laundry Company, Limited	20,000	$5	$5	none	$1,134	50 cents for year ended 31.5.05	8½ %	$6
Straits Ice Company, Limited	2,000	$100	$100	$25,000	$700	$5 for 1905	...	$160 buyers
Tientsin Waterworks Company, Limited	2,000	T.Tls. 100	T.Tls. 100	Tls. 15,295; Tls. 4,000	Tls. 1,012	Final of Tls. 4½ making Tls. 8½ for 1904/5	7 %	Tls. 115 buyers
United Asbestos Oriental Agency, Limited	9,900	$10	$4	$22,000	$551	80 cents; $19.80 for year ended 31.5.1905	9 %; 11 %	$9; $180
Do. (Founders')	100	$10	$10					
Watson, (A. S.) & Co., Limited	90,000	$10	$10	$300,000; $25,000	$6,096	Interim of 50 cents for 1905	7½ %	$15 sales
William Powell, Limited	15,000	$10	$10	$4,500	$6761	Final of 70 cts. making $1.20 for year 1904/05	11 %	$105 buyers

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